BIG COMICS SPECIAL

高橋留美子傑作集

赤い花束

高橋留美子

Takahashi Rumiko

BOOK DESIGN◉TAKAHASHI JUNZI

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小学館
BCS4724

9784091847249

1929979010485

ISBN4-09-184724-2

C9979 ¥1048E

定価：本体1,048円＋税

雑誌 45797-24　小学館

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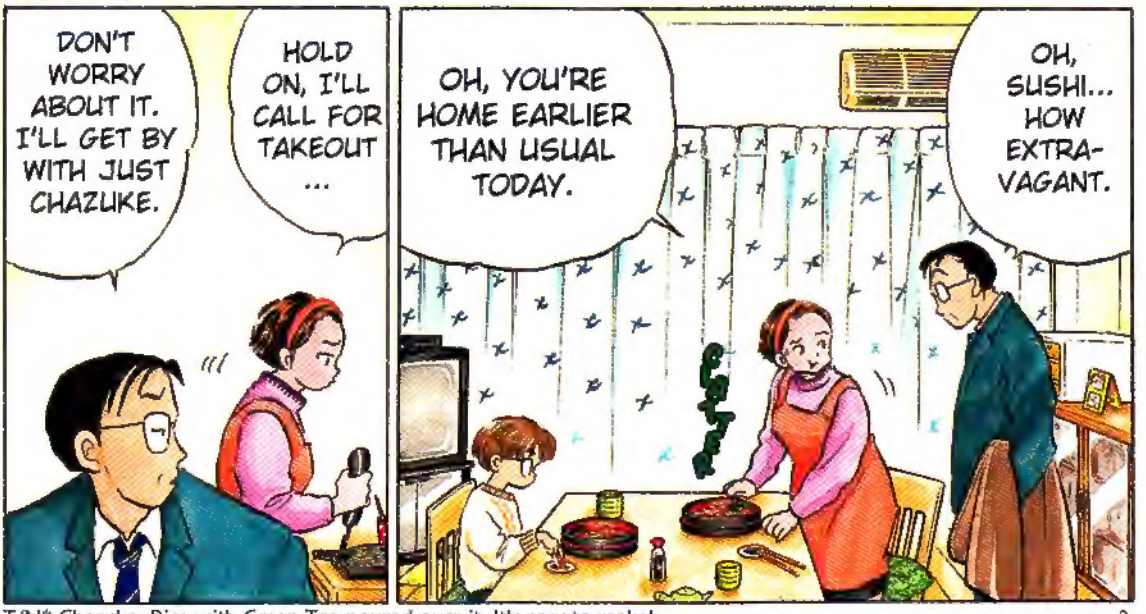
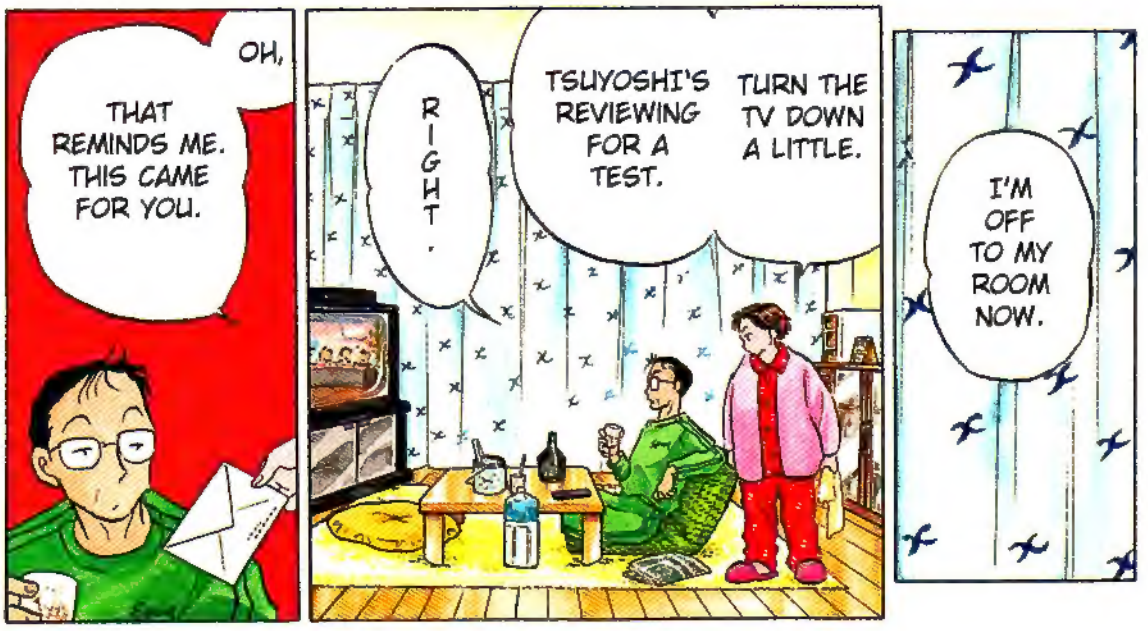
DAYTRIP DAYDREAM

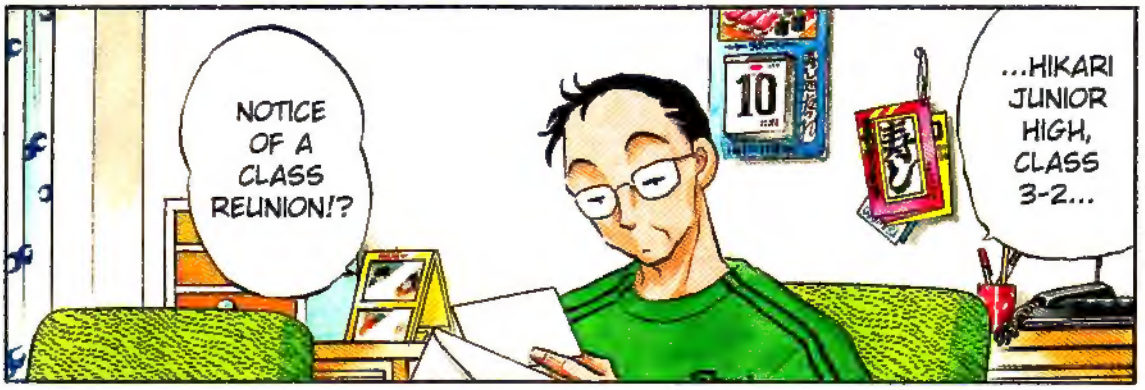
IF ONLY BECAUSE I DON'T RECEIVE ANY WRITTEN INVITATIONS.
I DON'T REALLY GO TO THINGS LIKE CLASS REUNIONS,
I'M HOME.
PHEW, I'M BEAT ...
STOMP
STOMP
DECEMBER 1999
2
...
OH!


DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. I'LL GET BY WITH JUST CHAZUKE.
HOLD ON, I'LL CALL FOR TAKEOUT ...
OH, YOU'RE HOME EARLIER THAN USUAL TODAY.
OH, SUSHI... HOW EXTRA-VAGANT.

T/N* Chazuke: Rice with Green Tea poured over it. It's easy to make!

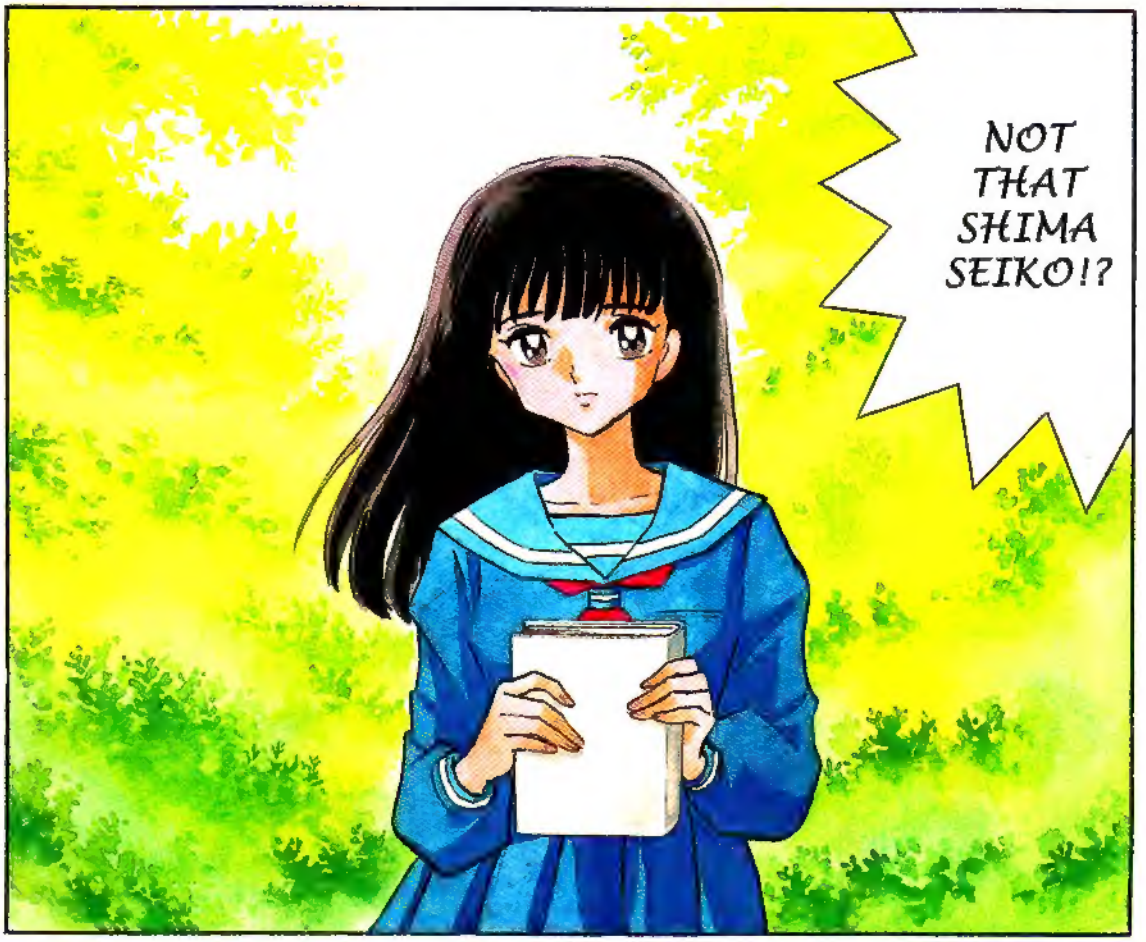
I'M FINISHED EATING.
AM I NOT ALLOWED TO COME HOME EARLY?
MUTTER
MUTTER
WHY COULDN'T YOU HAVE CALLED FIRST IF YOU'RE COMING BACK EARLY...



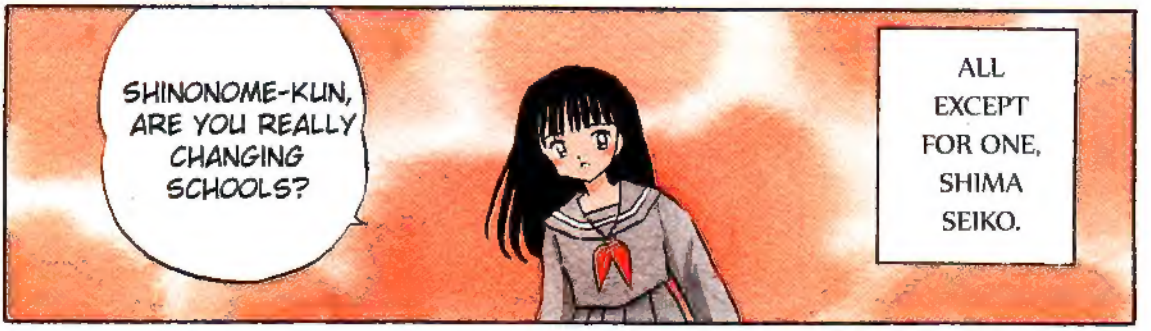

NOTICE OF A CLASS REUNION!?
...HIKARI JUNIOR HIGH, CLASS 3-2...

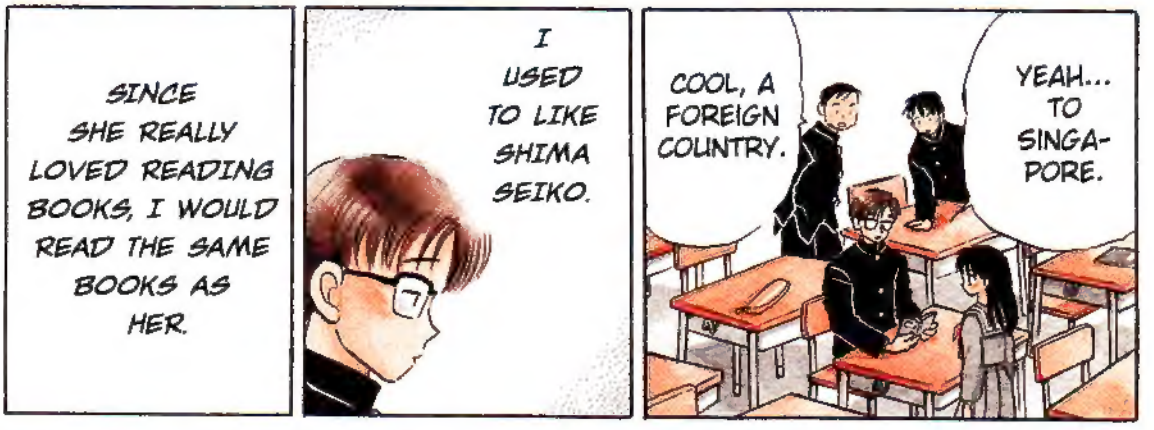
IT SAYS SHIMA SEIKO...
COORDINATORS:
TAJIMA SHOU
YAMAMURA KAORI (NÉE ODA)
SHIMA SEIKO
HUH...?

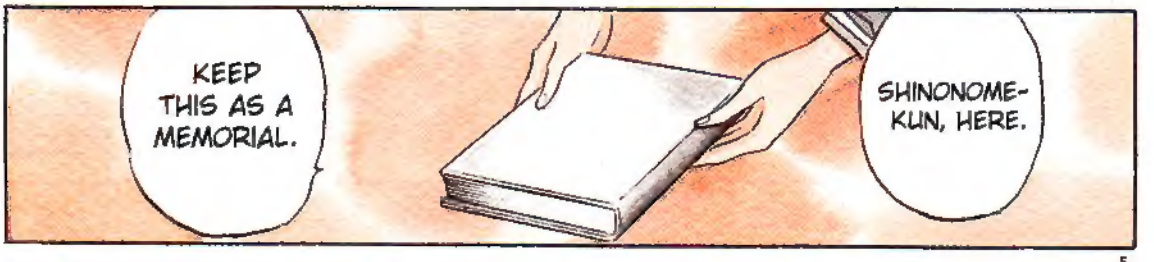
4


NOT THAT SHIMA SEIKO!?

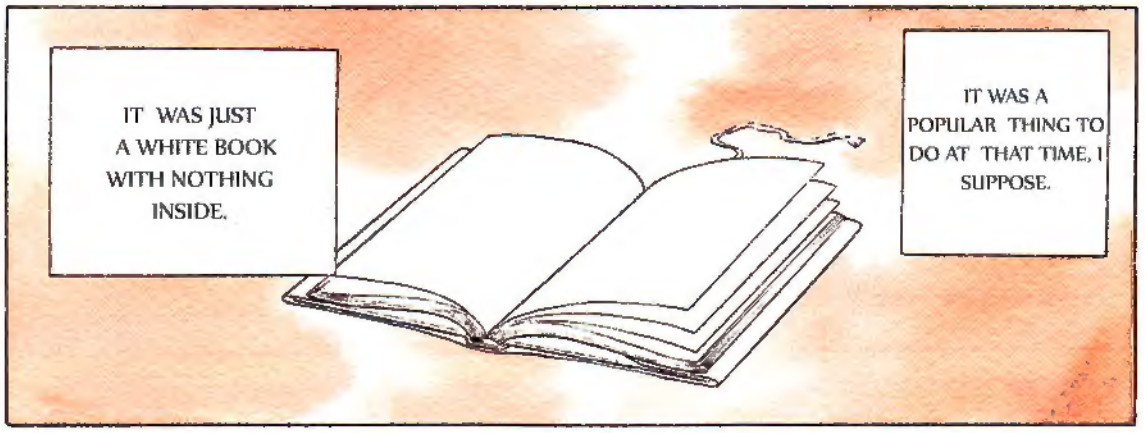
THAT'S WHY I CAN'T REALLY REMEMBER MY CLASSMATES.
DUE TO MY FATHER'S JOB, I REPEATEDLY CHANGED SCHOOLS.

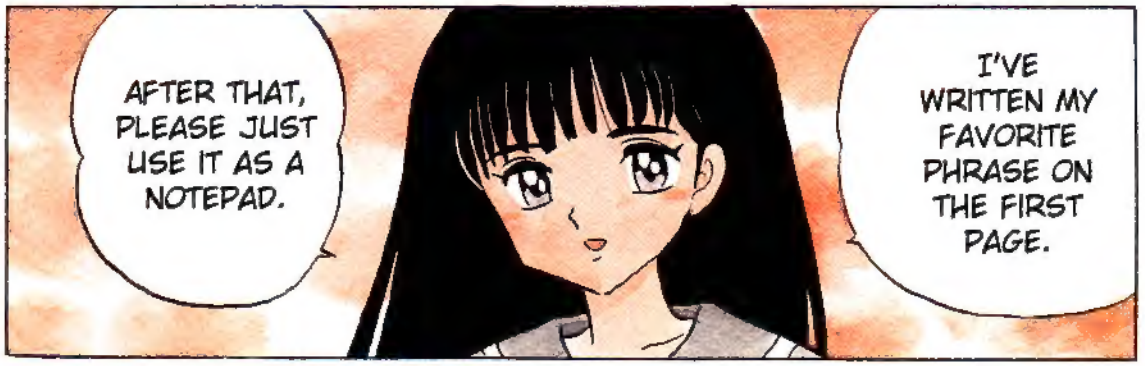

SHINONOME-KUN, ARE YOU REALLY CHANGING SCHOOLS?
ALL EXCEPT FOR ONE, SHIMA SEIKO.

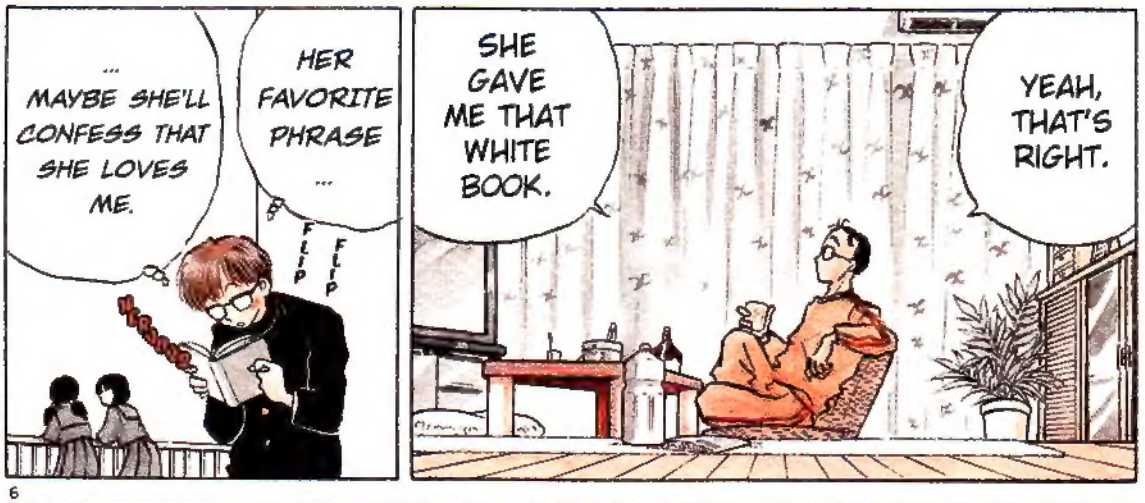

SINCE SHE REALLY LOVED READING BOOKS, I WOULD READ THE SAME BOOKS AS HER.
I USED TO LIKE SHIMA SEIKO.
COOL, A FOREIGN COUNTRY.
YEAH... TO SINGA-PORE.


KEEP THIS AS A MEMORIAL.
SHINONOME-KUN, HERE.

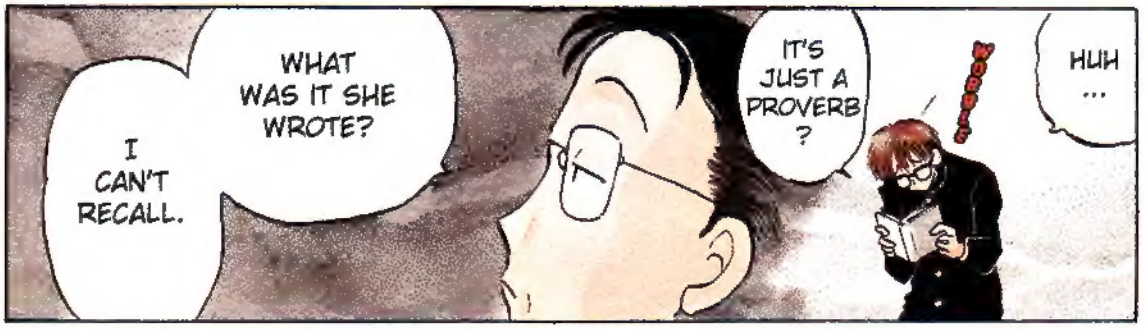
A BOOK?
UMM... WHAT?

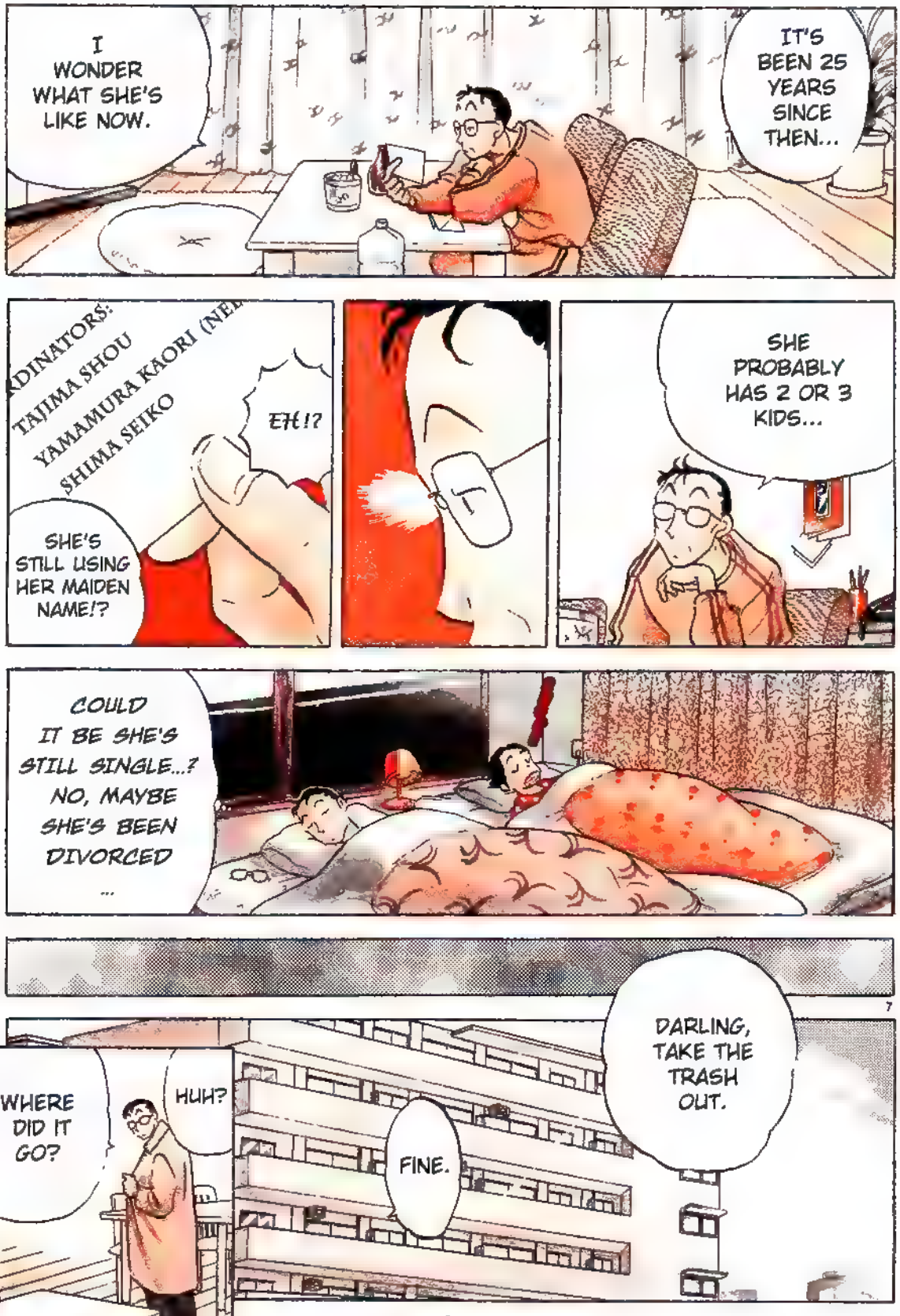

IT WAS JUST A WHITE BOOK WITH NOTHING INSIDE.
IT WAS A POPULAR THING TO DO AT THAT TIME, I SUPPOSE.

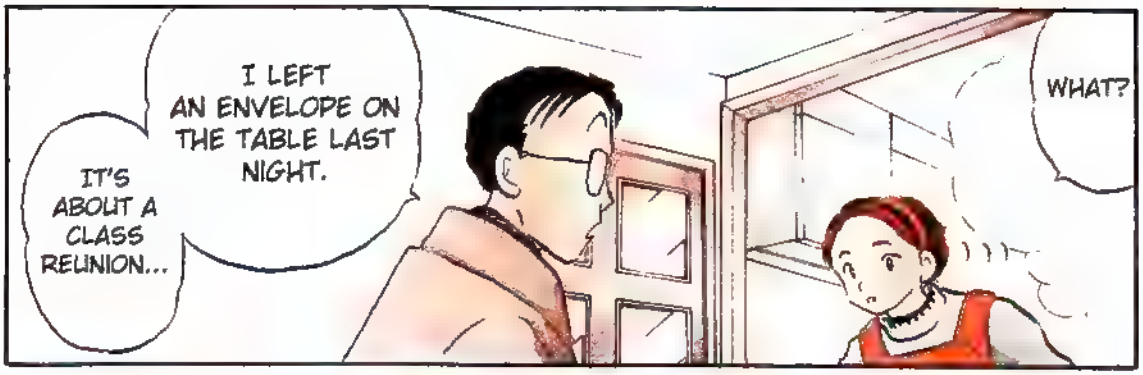

AFTER THAT, PLEASE JUST USE IT AS A NOTEPAD.
I'VE WRITTEN MY FAVORITE PHRASE ON THE FIRST PAGE.

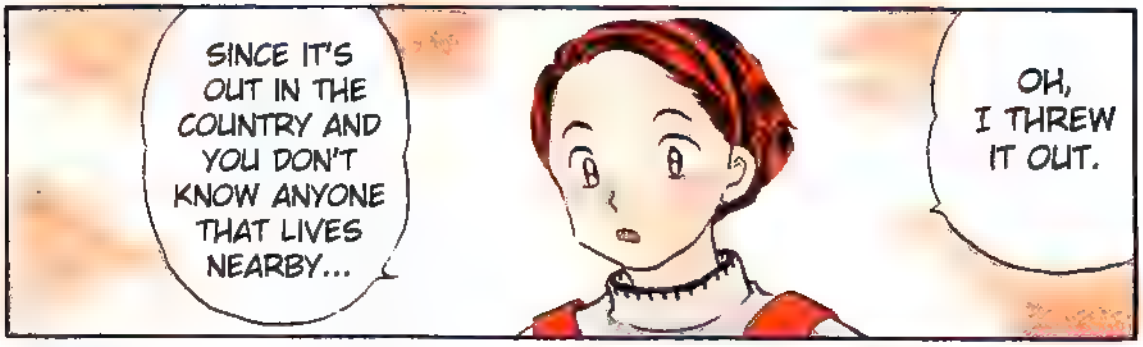

... MAYBE SHE'LL CONFESS THAT SHE LOVES ME.
HER FAVORITE PHRASE ...
FLIP FLIP
SHE GAVE ME THAT WHITE BOOK.
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT.

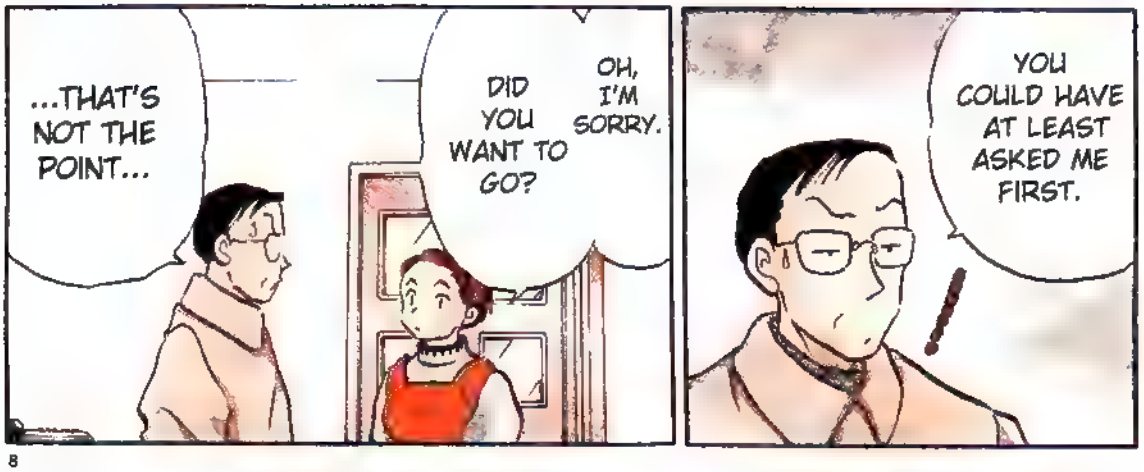
6


I CAN'T RECALL.
WHAT WAS IT SHE WROTE?
IT'S JUST A PROVERB ?
HUH ...

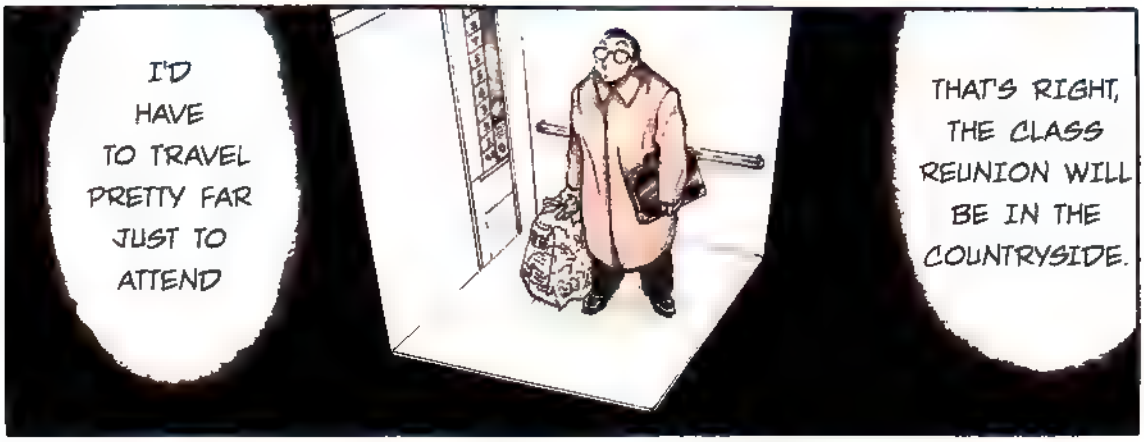

I WONDER WHAT SHE'S LIKE NOW.
IT'S BEEN 25 YEARS SINCE THEN...
KDINATORS:
TAJIMA SHOU
YAMAMURA KAORI (NEE
SHIMA SEIKO
EH!?
SHE'S STILL USING HER MAIDEN NAME!?
SHE PROBABLY HAS 2 OR 3 KIDS...
COULD IT BE SHE'S STILL SINGLE...? NO, MAYBE SHE'S BEEN DIVORCED ...
7
DARLING, TAKE THE TRASH OUT.
FINE.
HUH?
WHERE DID IT GO?

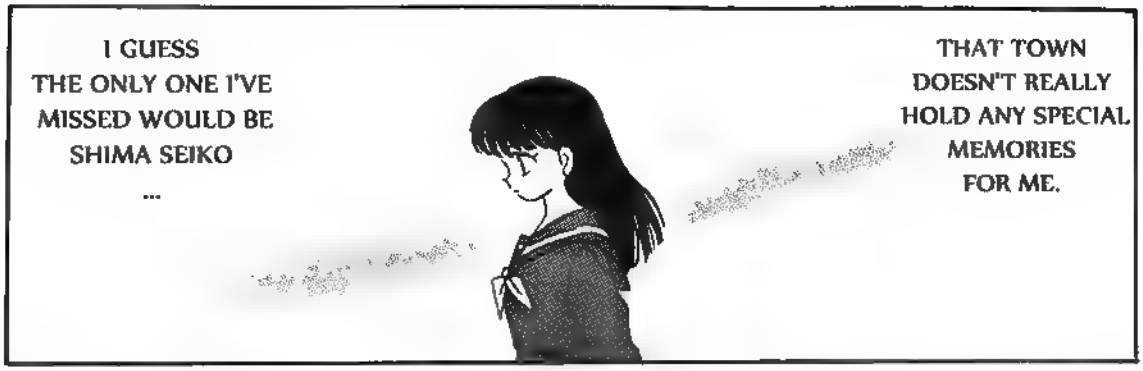

IT'S ABOUT A CLASS REUNION...
I LEFT AN ENVELOPE ON THE TABLE LAST NIGHT.
WHAT?


SINCE IT'S OUT IN THE COUNTRY AND YOU DON'T KNOW ANYONE THAT LIVES NEARBY...
OH, I THREW IT OUT.


...THAT'S NOT THE POINT...
DID YOU WANT TO GO?
OH, I'M SORRY.
YOU COULD HAVE AT LEAST ASKED ME FIRST.

8


I'D HAVE TO TRAVEL PRETTY FAR JUST TO ATTEND
THAT'S RIGHT, THE CLASS REUNION WILL BE IN THE COUNTRYSIDE.


I GUESS THE ONLY ONE I'VE MISSED WOULD BE SHIMA SEIKO ...
THAT TOWN DOESN'T REALLY HOLD ANY SPECIAL MEMORIES FOR ME.

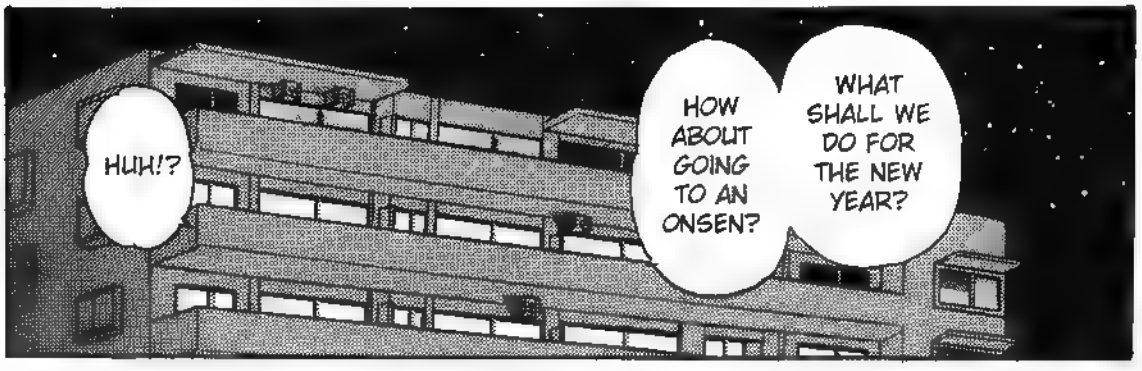
HOWEVER,
THE EVENT IS ON JANUARY 2ND, 2000 ...

FOUND IT.

...

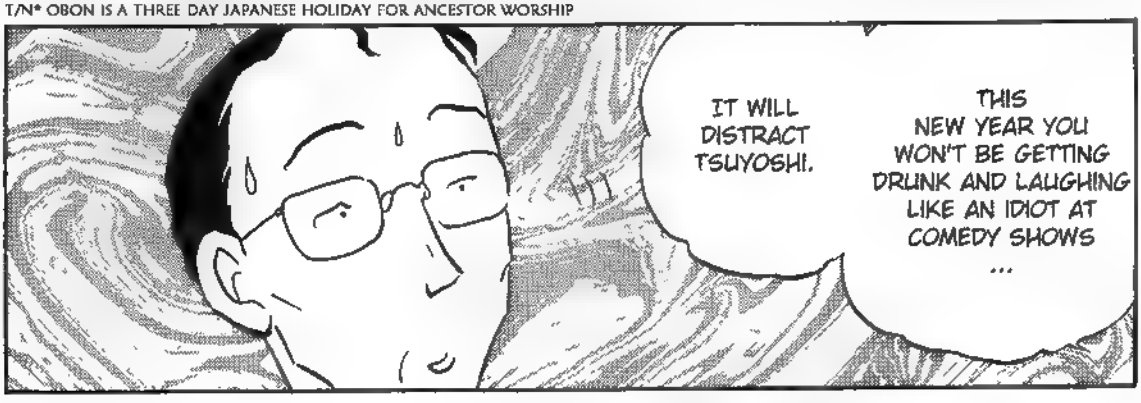
I CAN'T JUST ABANDON MY WIFE AND KID JUST FOR A CLASS REUNION
THAT'S THE NEW YEAR.

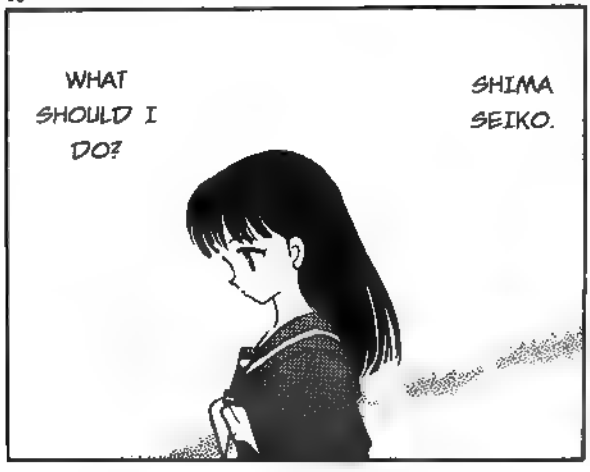
9

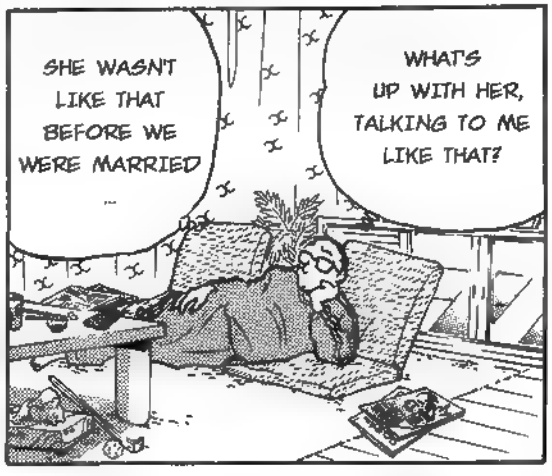

HUH!?
HOW ABOUT GOING TO AN ONSEN?
WHAT SHALL WE DO FOR THE NEW YEAR?

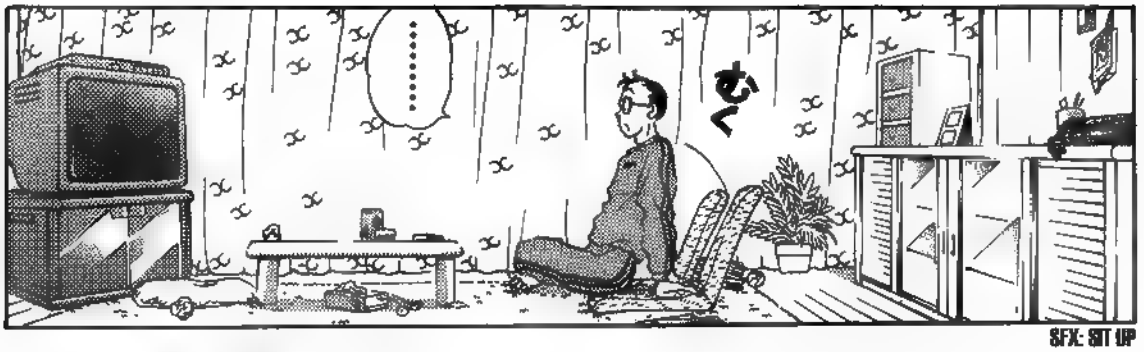
I'M TELLING YOU THIS NOW IN ADVANCE ...
RECENTLY, STUDENTS ARE TOO BUSY WITH EXAMS TO HAVE HOLIDAYS LIKE OBON OR NEW YEAR.
OOH, YOU DON'T KNOW A THING.

T/N* OBON IS A THREE DAY JAPANESE HOLIDAY FOR ANCESTOR WORSHIP

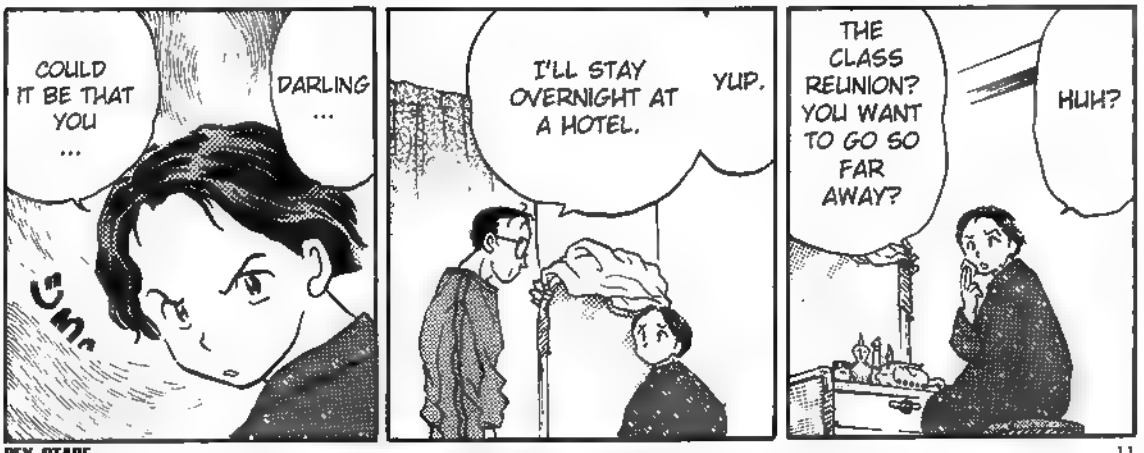




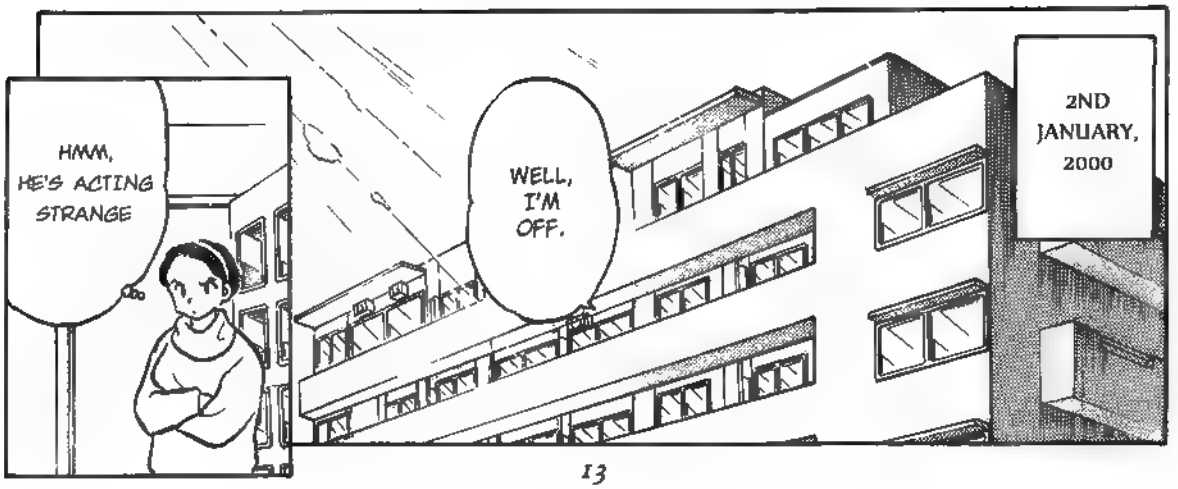


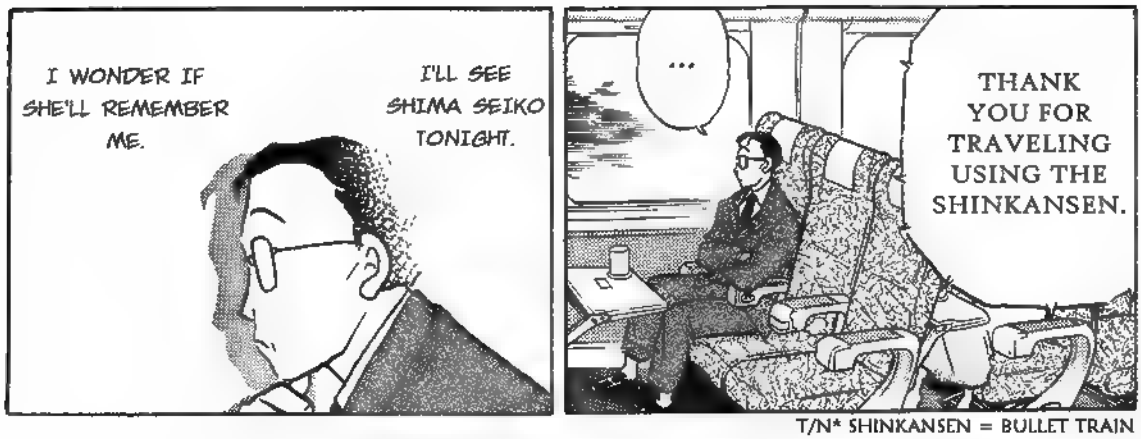


SFX: SIT UP

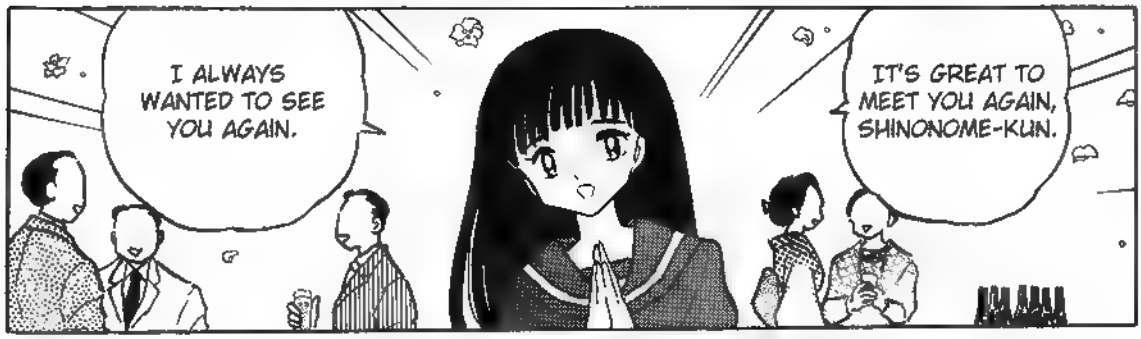


SFX: STARE





T/N* SHINKANSEN = BULLET TRAIN



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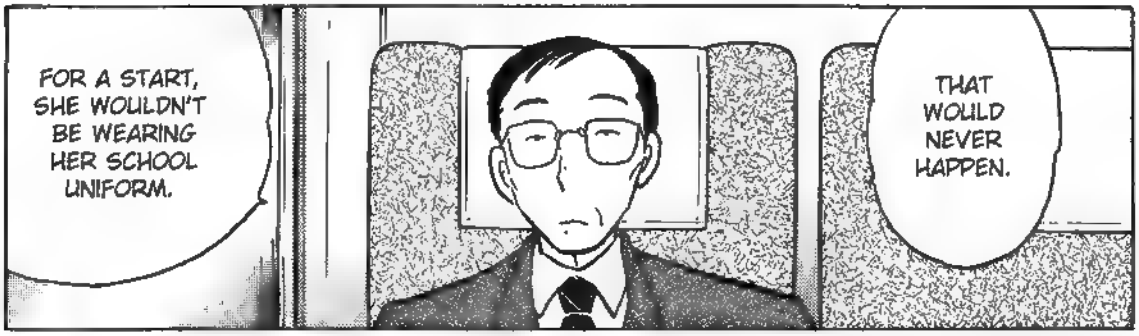
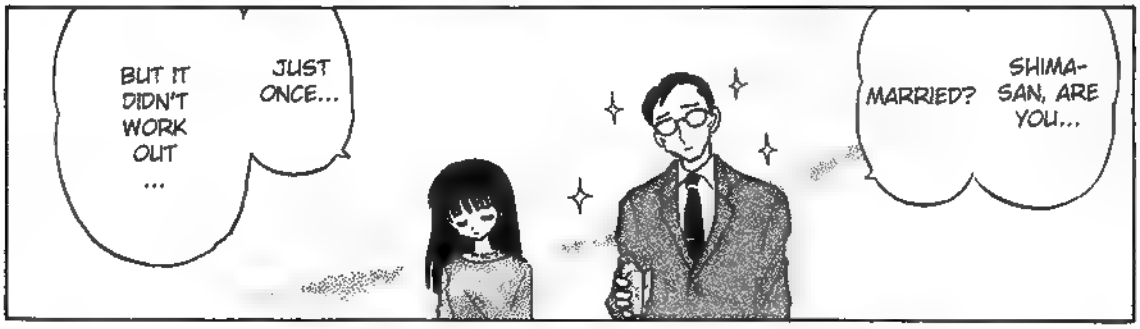
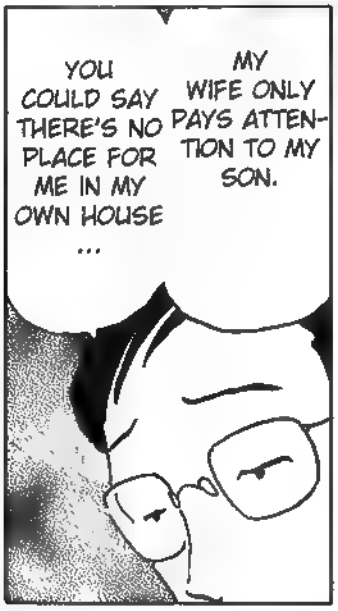
SFX: RATTLE RATTLE


FOR A START, SHE WOULDN'T BE WEARING HER SCHOOL UNIFORM.
THAT WOULD NEVER HAPPEN.

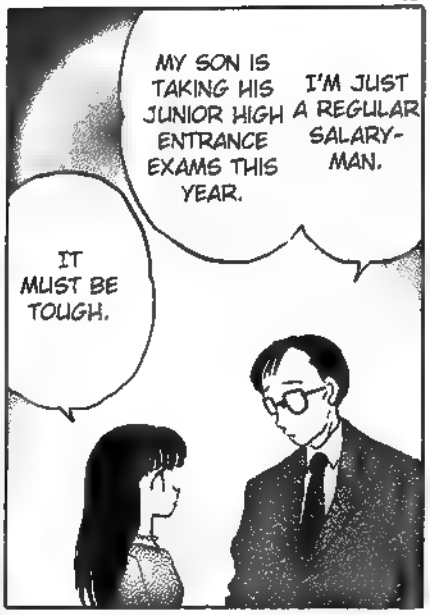

BUT IT DIDN'T WORK OUT ...
JUST ONCE...
MARRIED?
SHIMA-SAN, ARE YOU...

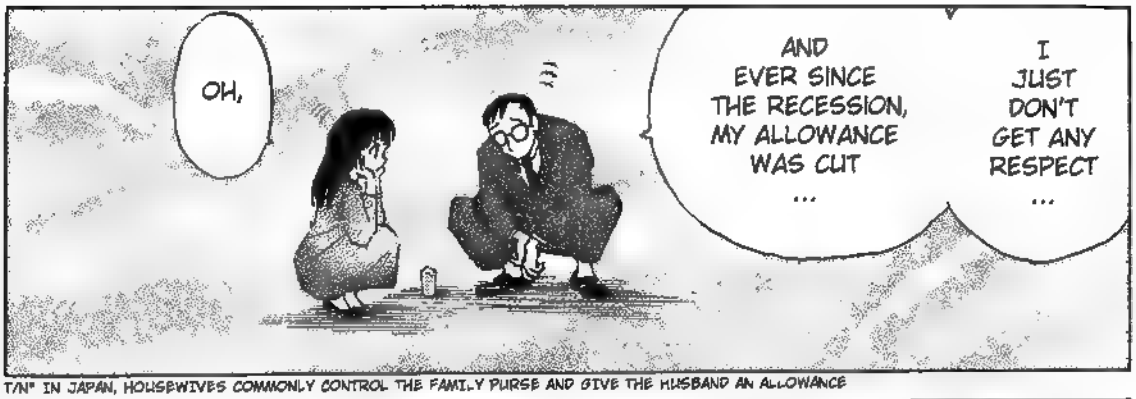
AND YOU, SHINO-NOME -KUN?
MANY THINGS HAVE HAPPENED.
WELL, IT HAS BEEN 25 YEARS.
I SEE ...

13

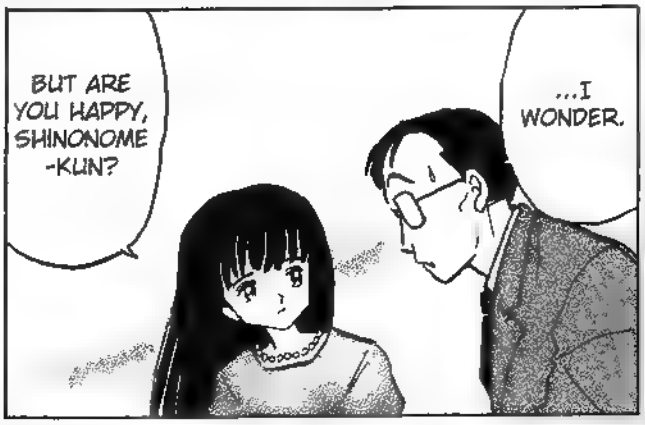

YOU COULD SAY THERE'S NO PLACE FOR ME IN MY OWN HOUSE ...
MY WIFE ONLY PAYS ATTEN-TION TO MY SON.

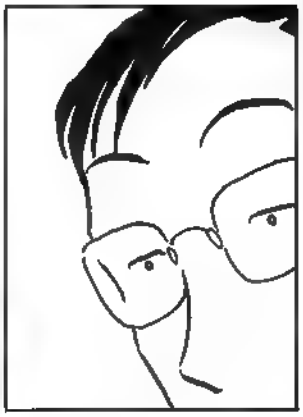
I SHOULD MENTION THAT I'M NOT UNHAPPY, ALTHOUGH ...


MY SON IS TAKING HIS JUNIOR HIGH ENTRANCE EXAMS THIS YEAR.
I'M JUST A REGULAR SALARY-MAN.
IT MUST BE TOUGH.

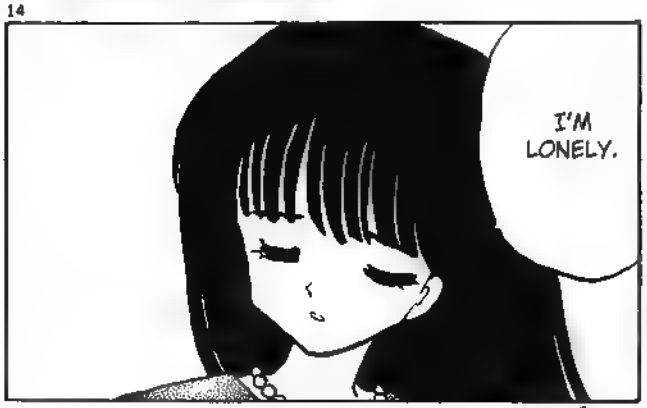


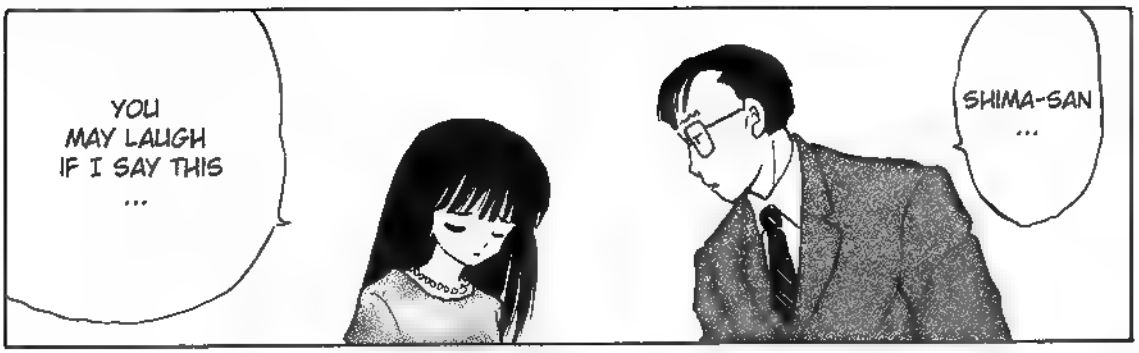
T/N* IN JAPAN, HOUSEWIVES COMMONLY CONTROL THE FAMILY PURSE AND GIVE THE HUSBAND AN ALLOWANCE





14

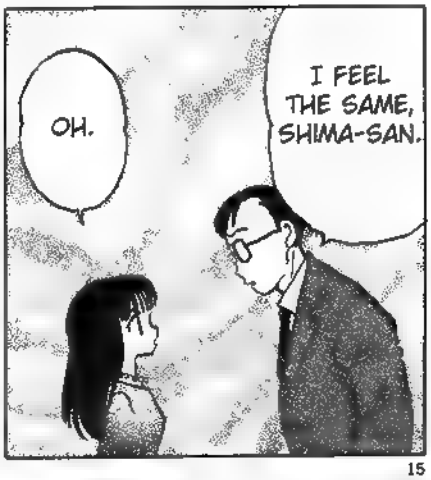



YOU MAY LAUGH IF I SAY THIS ...
SHIMA-SAN ...

THAT'S WHY I WAS REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU TODAY.
AT THAT TIME, I REALLY USED TO LIKE YOU, SHINONOME -KUN.

JUST TO SEE YOU.
YES.

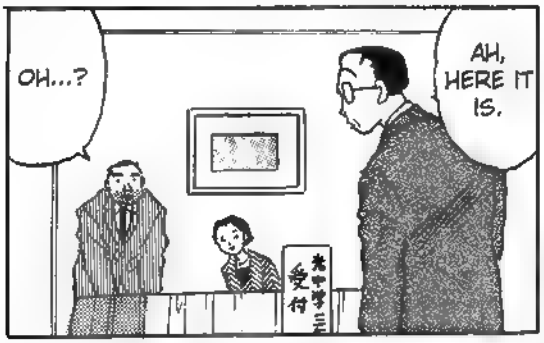
JUST TO MEET ME!?
SO, YOU MEAN YOU CAME ALL THAT WAY FROM TOKYO,


OH.
I FEEL THE SAME, SHIMA-SAN.

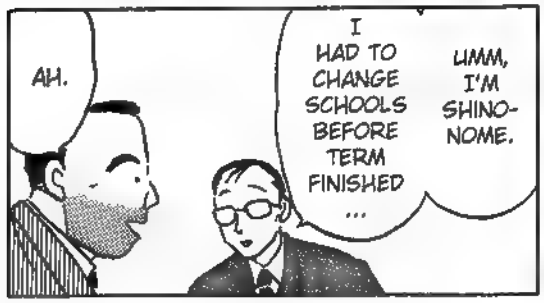
15

SIGH...
WELL, IS IT OK IF WE GO BACK TO YOUR ROOM?
I WANT TO HAVE A NICE LONG TALK ALONE WITH YOU.

THERE'S NO REASON SUCH A LOVELY SCENARIO WOULD HAPPEN.
HOW STUPID ...

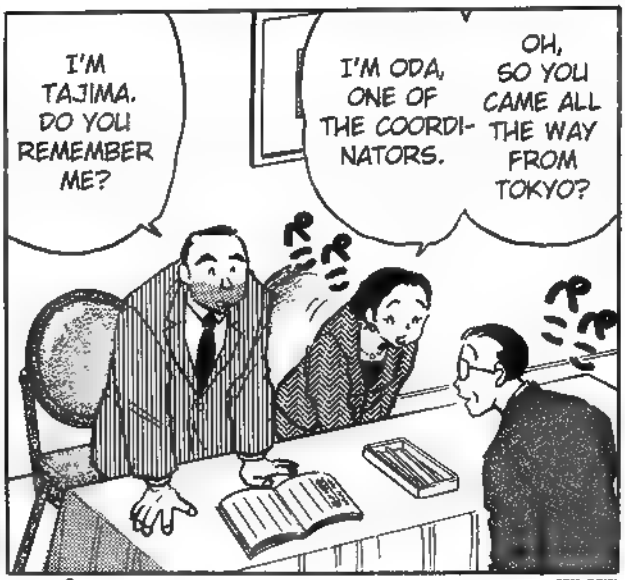

OH...?
AH, HERE IT IS.
受付

HIKARI JUNIOR HIGH, YEAR 3 CLASS 2...
UMM...

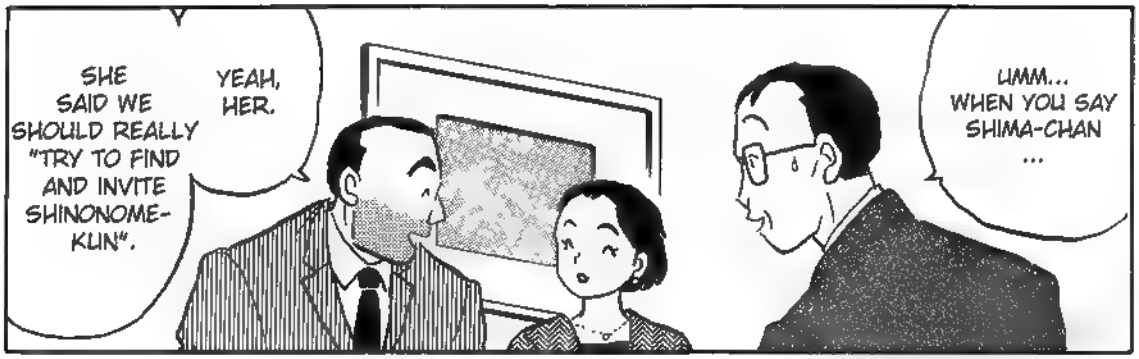

AH.
I HAD TO CHANGE SCHOOLS BEFORE TERM FINISHED ...
UMM, I'M SHINO-NOME.

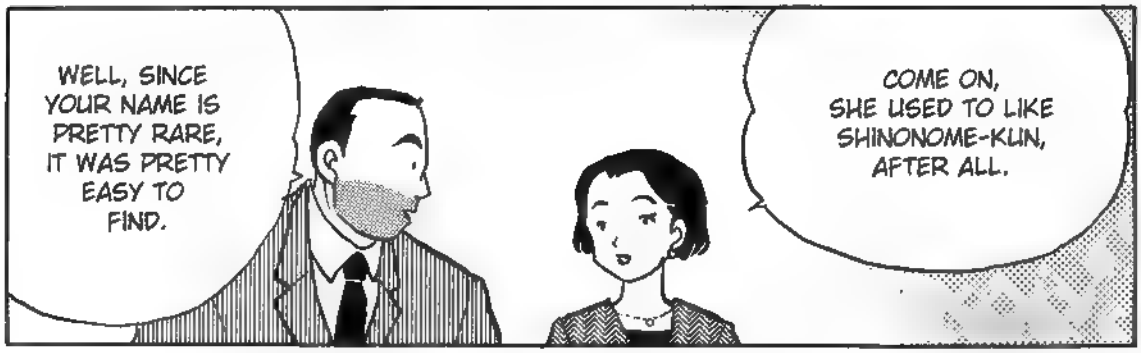
16

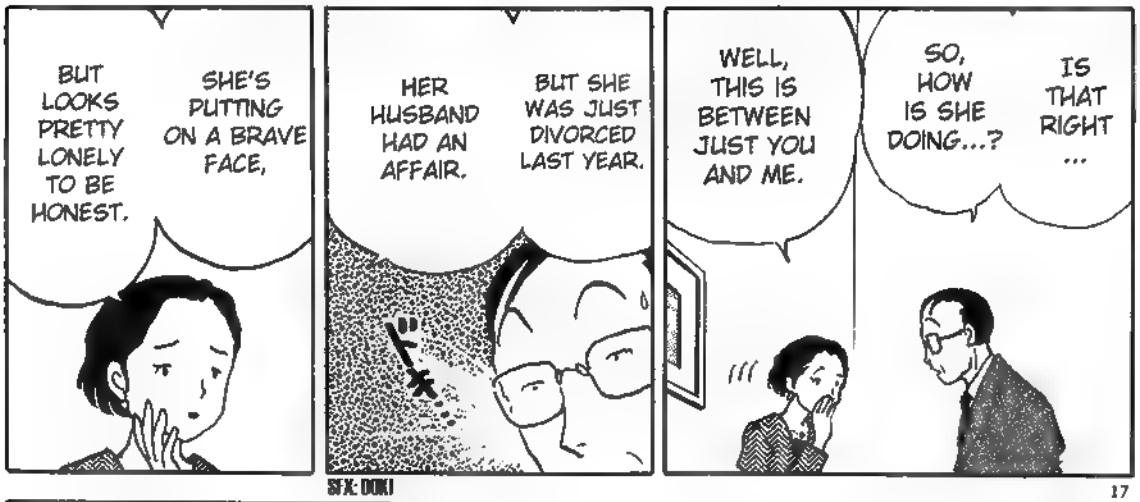
SHIMA-CHAN WILL BE DELIGHTED.
I REALLY CAN'T BELIEVE YOU CAME.
HUH?


I'M TAJIMA. DO YOU REMEMBER ME?
I'M ODA, ONE OF THE COORDI-NATORS.
OH, SO YOU CAME ALL THE WAY FROM TOKYO?

SFX: BOW

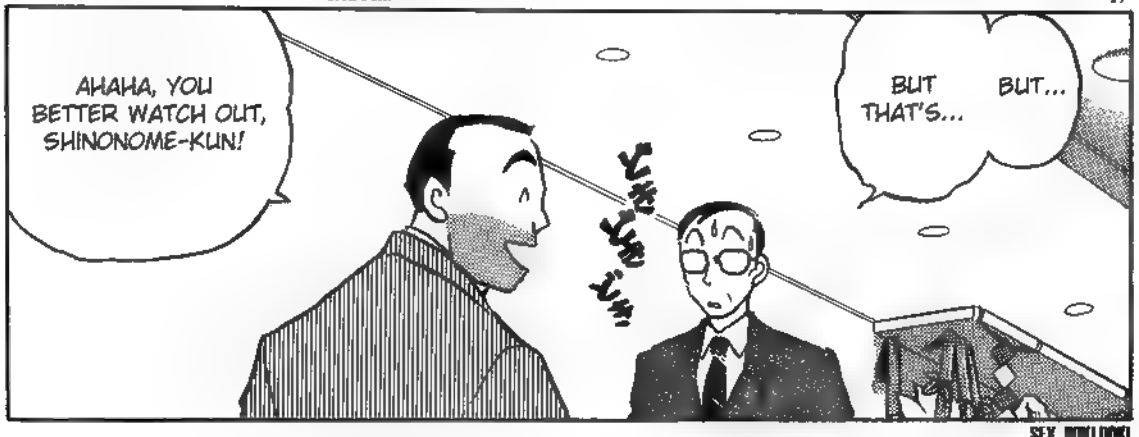




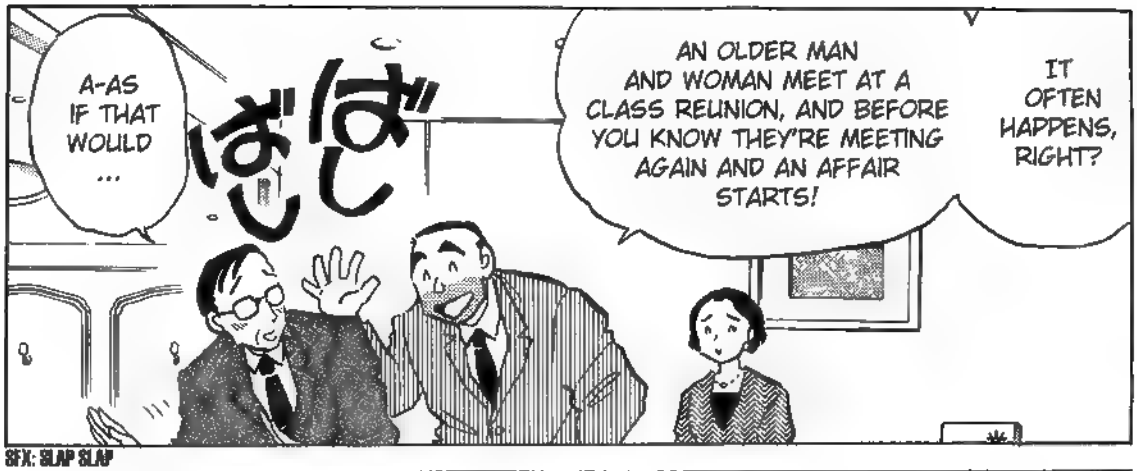

BUT LOOKS PRETTY LONELY TO BE HONEST.
SHE'S PUTTING ON A BRAVE FACE,
HER HUSBAND HAD AN AFFAIR.
BUT SHE WAS JUST DIVORCED LAST YEAR.
WELL, THIS IS BETWEEN JUST YOU AND ME.
SO, HOW IS SHE DOING...?
IS THAT RIGHT ...

SFX: DOKI

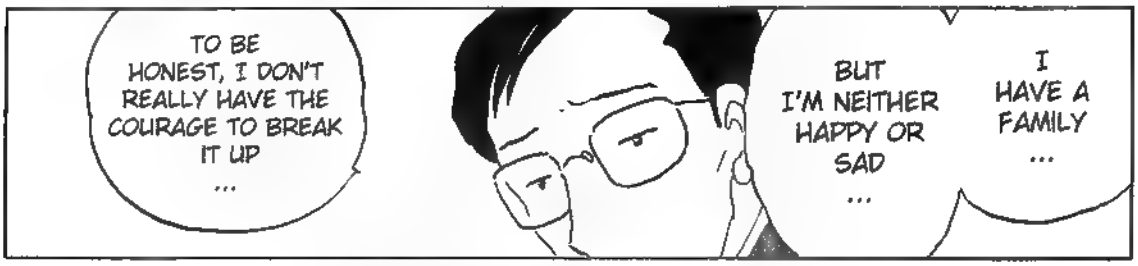
17



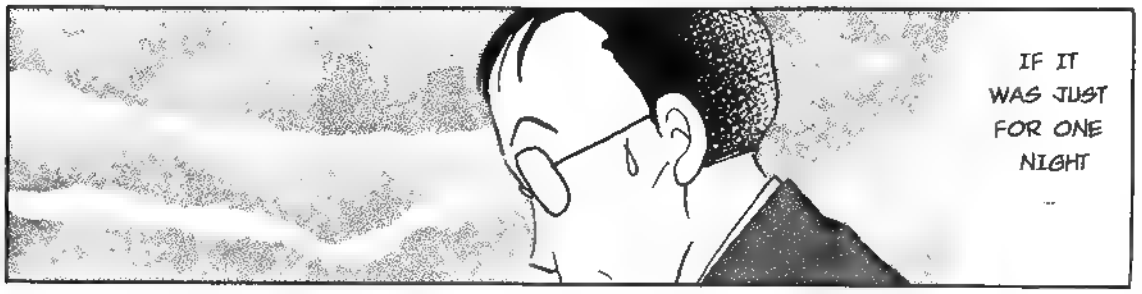
SFX: DOKI DOKI


A-AS IF THAT WOULD ...
ばし
ばし
AN OLDER MAN AND WOMAN MEET AT A CLASS REUNION, AND BEFORE YOU KNOW THEY'RE MEETING AGAIN AND AN AFFAIR STARTS!
IT OFTEN HAPPENS, RIGHT?

SFX: SLAP SLAP



18



MAYBE WE COULD RELAX AND TALK THERE, JUST THE TWO OF US.

ACTUALLY, I'M STAYING IN A ROOM AT THIS HOTEL.

SFX - DOKI DOKI

HEY, SHIMA-CHAN. SHINONOME-KUN HAS ARRIVED!

OH, SHE'S HERE.

SHIMA-SA...

SHINONOME ...KUN?

SFX - DOKI DOKI

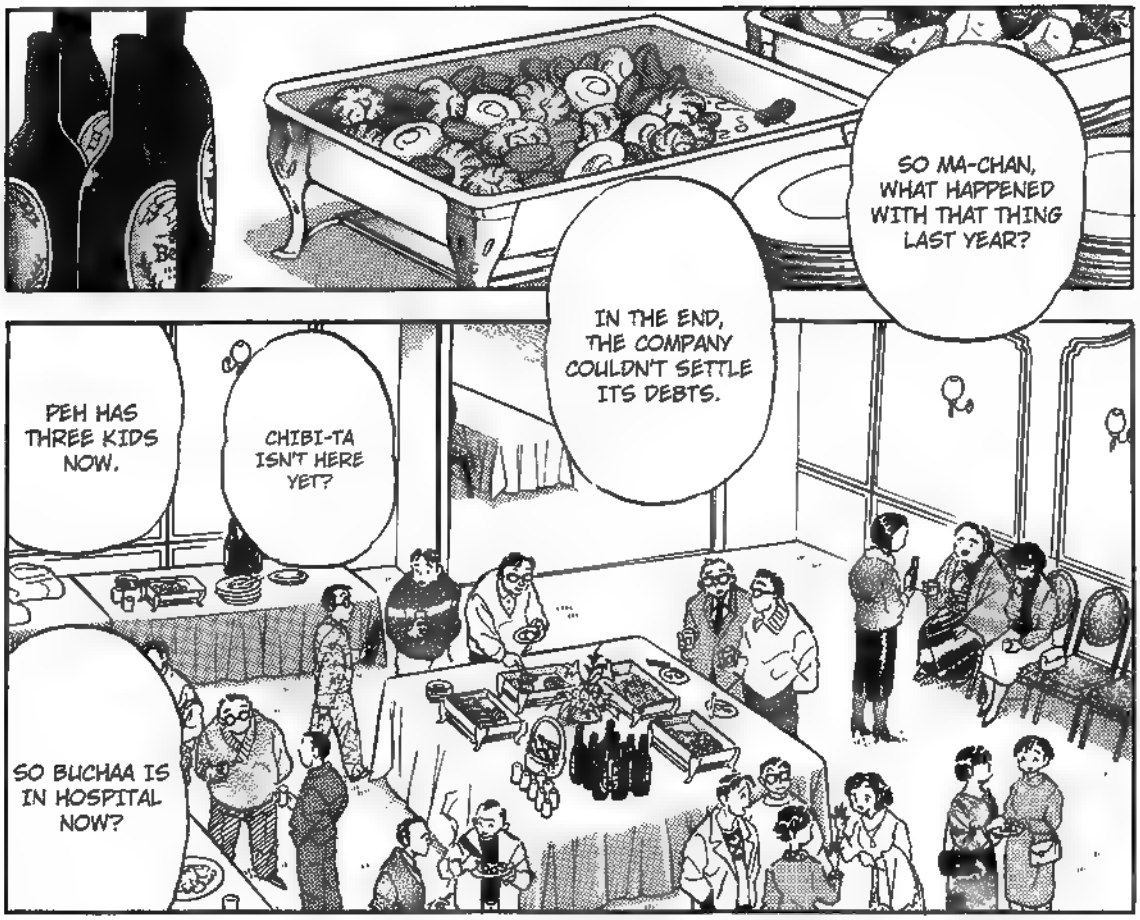
SFX - STEP STEP

LONG TIME NO SEE, SHIMOMURA-KUN!!

OH I CAN'T BELIEVE IT

SFX - SHOCK

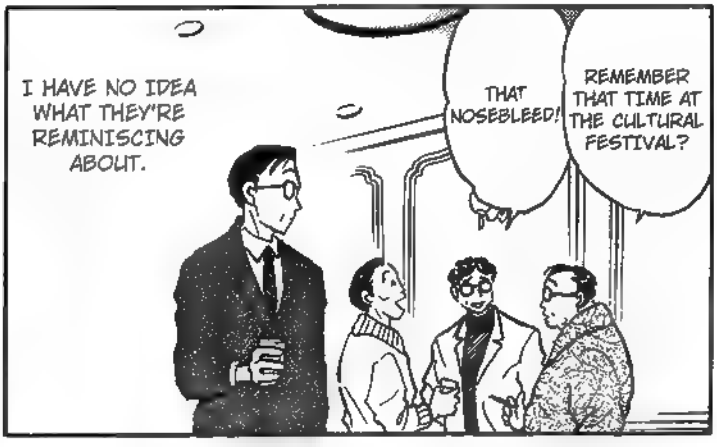
MY CLASS REUNION IS OFFICIALLY OVER


SO MA-CHAN, WHAT HAPPENED WITH THAT THING LAST YEAR?
IN THE END, THE COMPANY COULDN'T SETTLE ITS DEBTS.
CHIBI-TA ISN'T HERE YET?
PEH HAS THREE KIDS NOW.
SO BUCHAA IS IN HOSPITAL NOW?

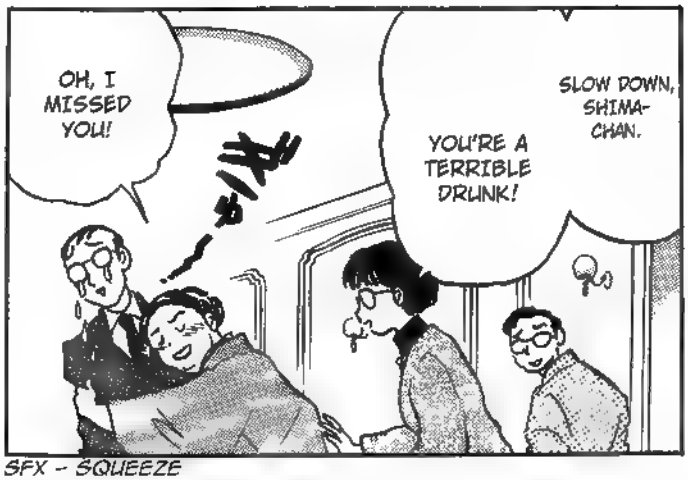
I CAN'T PUT FACES TO ALL THESE NICKNAMES.
THIS IS HOPELESS.

21

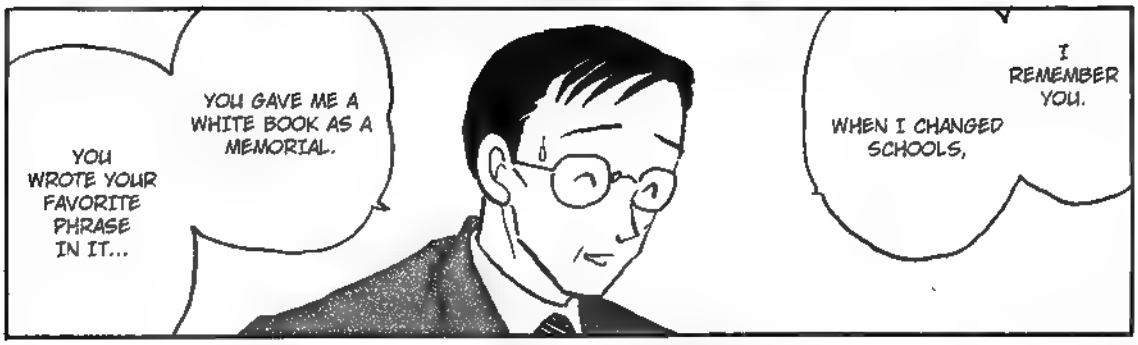
I SHOULDN'T HAVE COME.
I JUST DON'T FIT IN HERE.


I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THEY'RE REMINISCING ABOUT.
THAT NOSEBLEED!
REMEMBER THAT TIME AT THE CULTURAL FESTIVAL?

SFX - SLAP SLAP



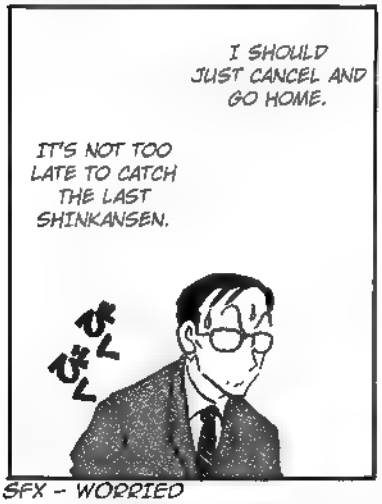
SFX - SQUEEZE



22

SFX - RUB RUB

SFX - FLINCH



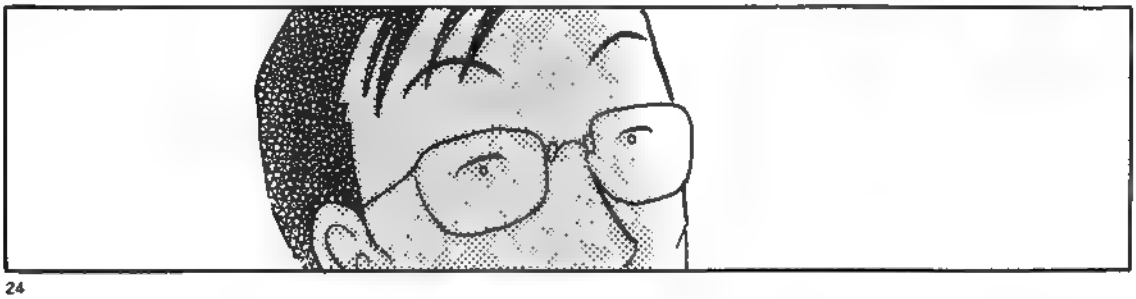
SFX - WORRIED

SFX - CREEP AWAY

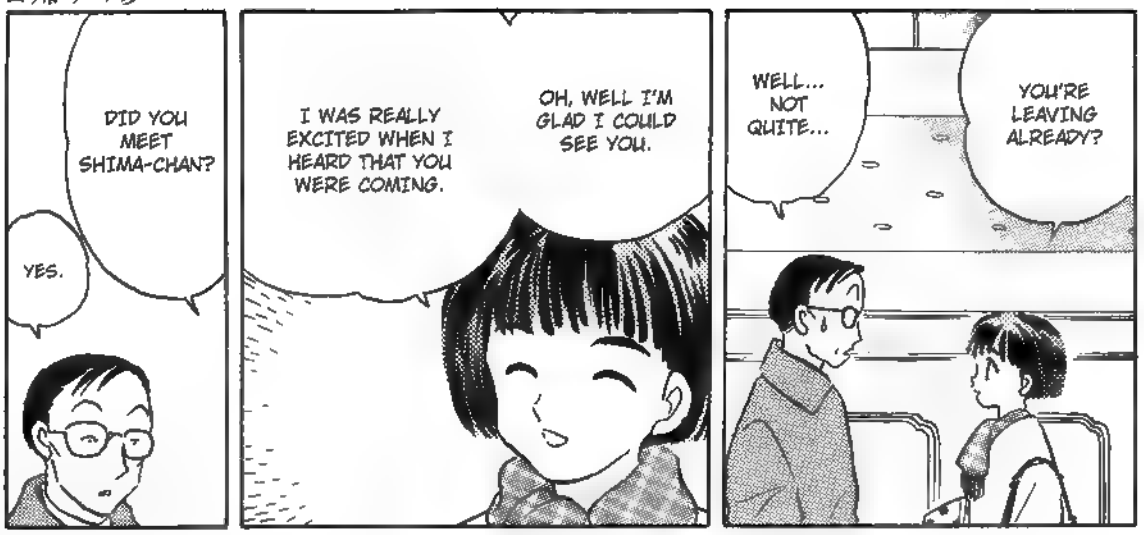
SFX - BOW

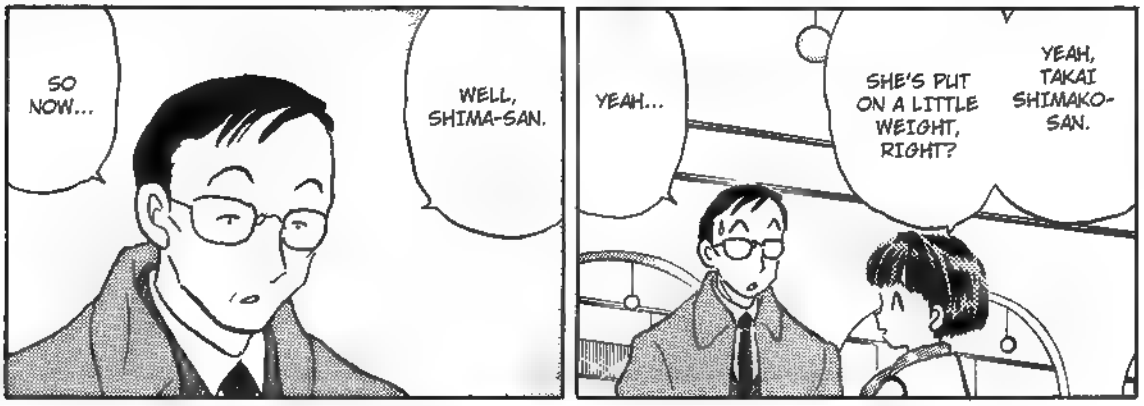
SFX - STEP STEP

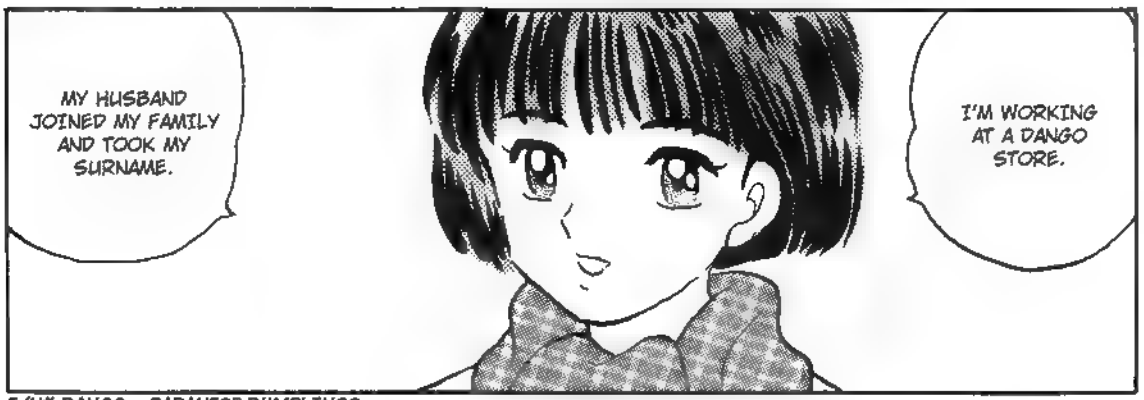
23



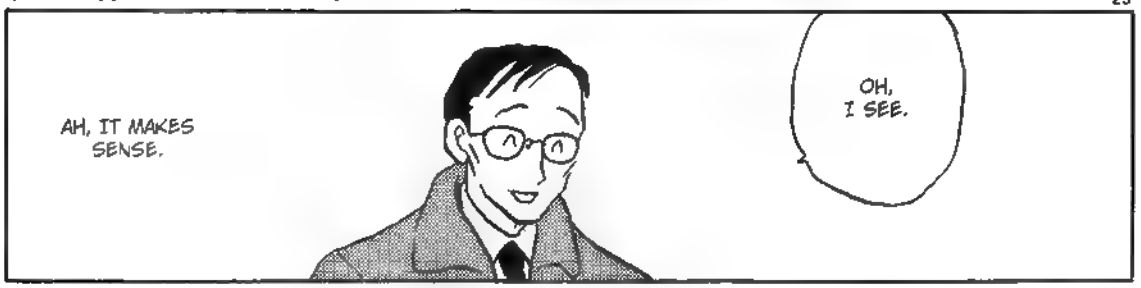
24


DID YOU MEET SHIMA-CHAN?
YES.
I WAS REALLY EXCITED WHEN I HEARD THAT YOU WERE COMING.
OH, WELL I'M GLAD I COULD SEE YOU.
YOU'RE LEAVING ALREADY?
WELL... NOT QUITE...





T/N* DANGO = JAPANESE DUMPLINGS

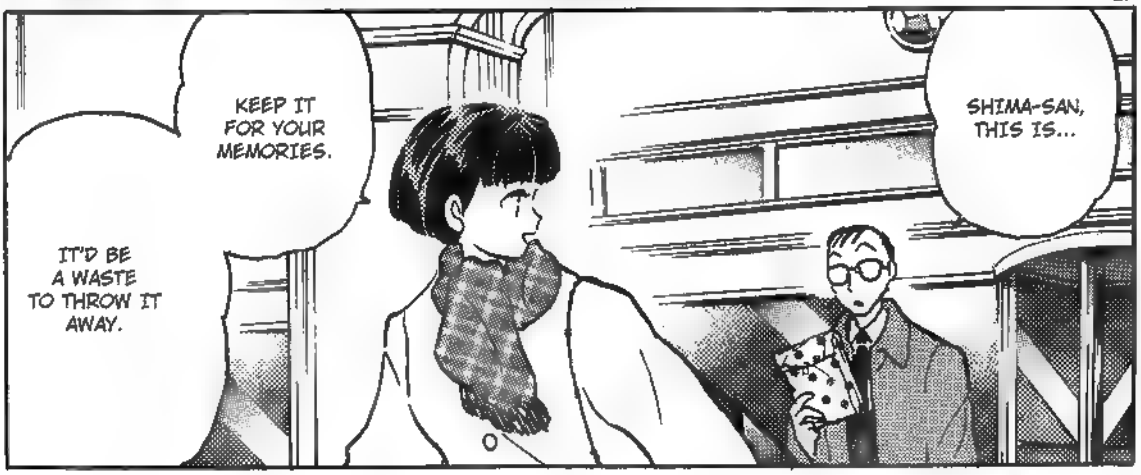


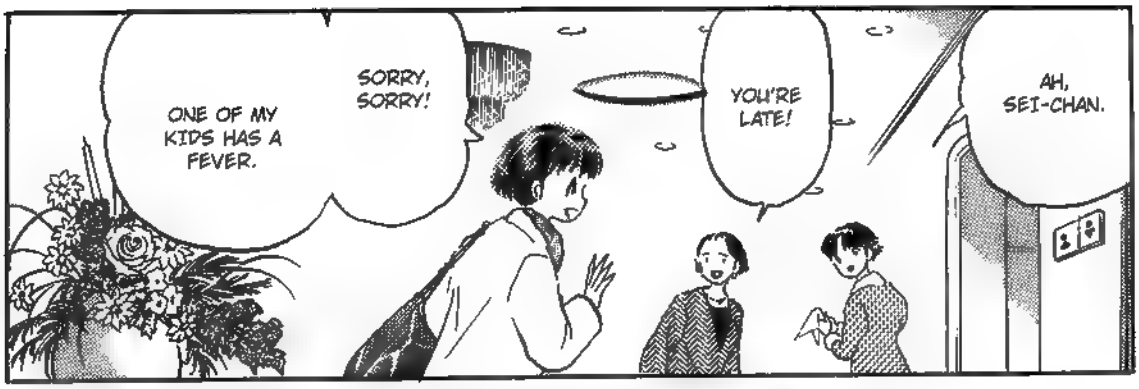
HUH?
I FOUND THIS RECENTLY IN A CLOSET WHEN I WAS TIDYING UP.
SHINONOME-KUN, HERE...
AH.
IT'S THE WHITE BOOK FROM THAT TIME...
THIS...
FOR SOME REASON, I WANTED TO HAVE THE SAME ONE.
ACTUALLY, I BOUGHT THE SAME BOOK AT THAT TIME TOO.
DO YOU REMEMBER !?
SO DOES IT MEAN...
HUH...

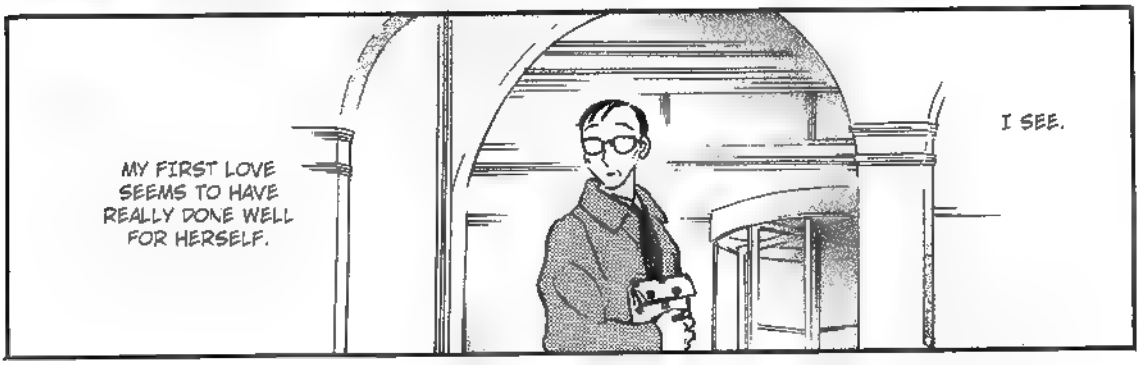
SFX – TAP

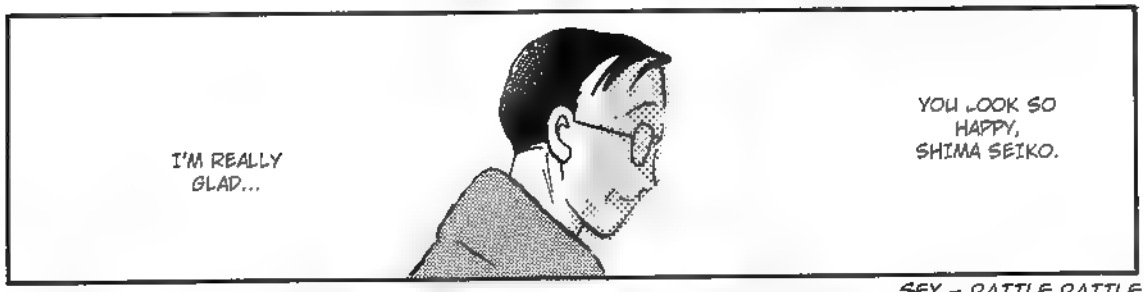
SFX – STEP

27



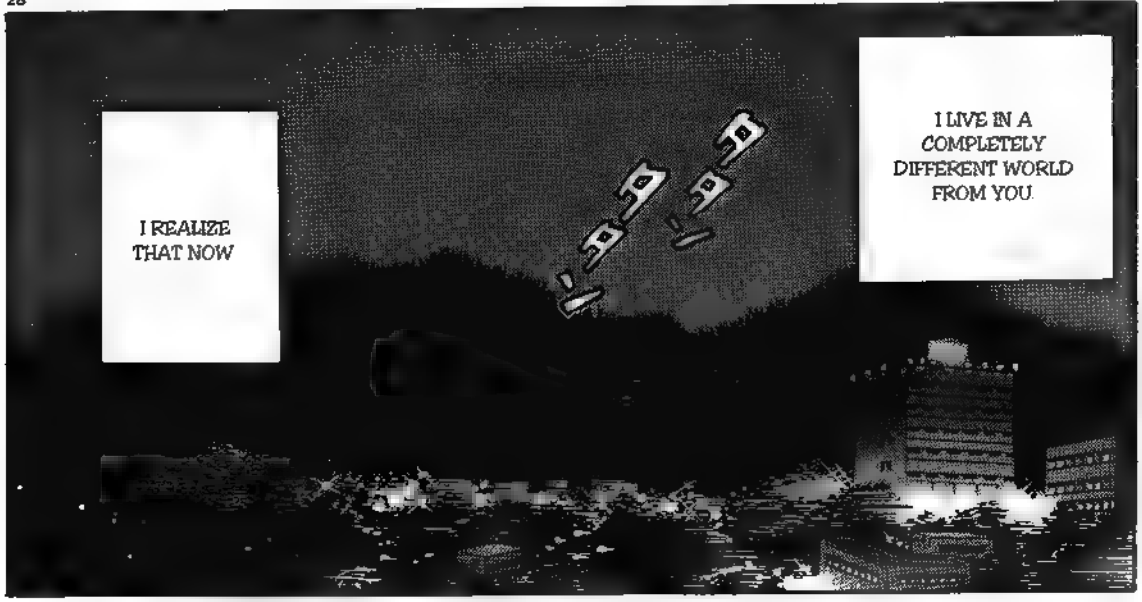


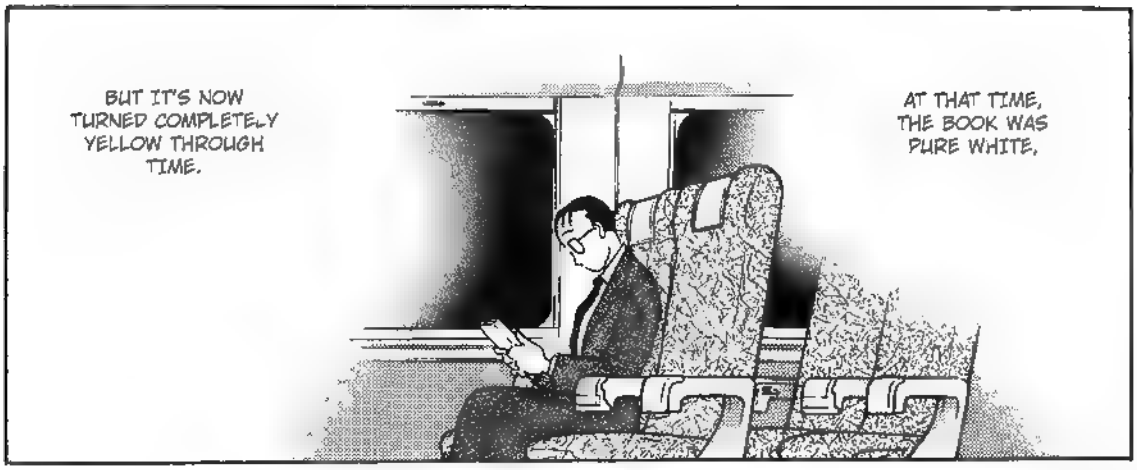




28

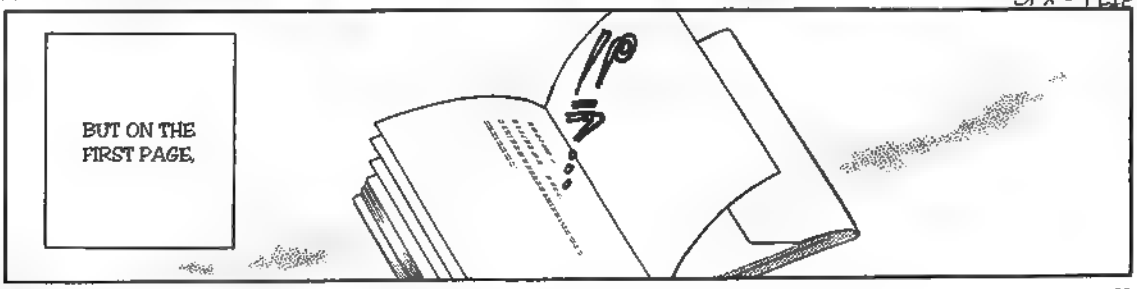
SFX – RATTLE RATTLE



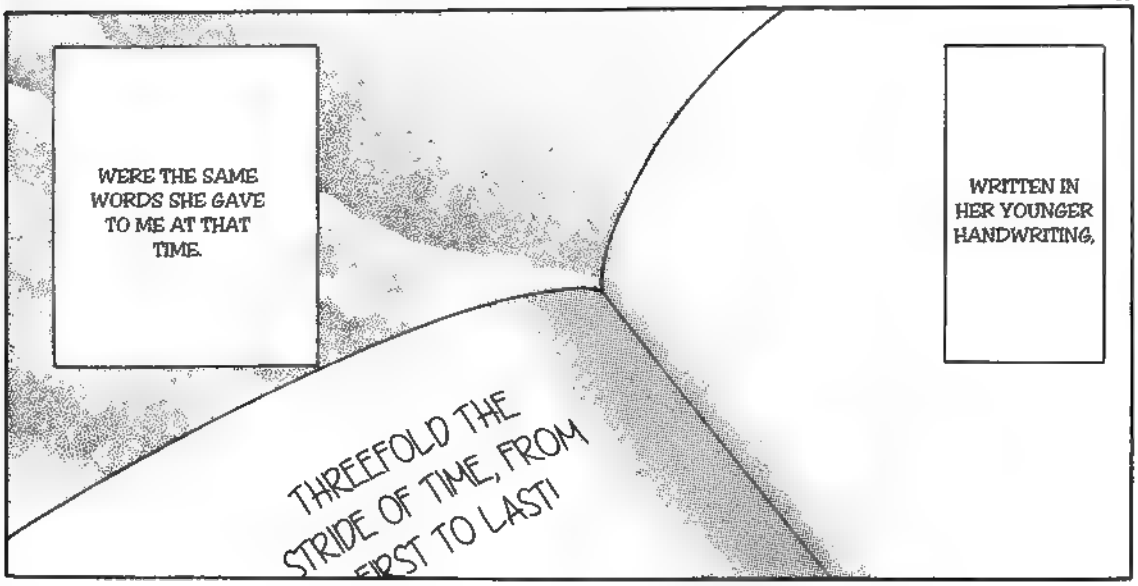


SFX - FLIP FLIP

SFX - FLIP



29


WERE THE SAME WORDS SHE GAVE TO ME AT THAT TIME.
WRITTEN IN HER YOUNGER HANDWRITING,
THREEFOLD THE STRIDE OF TIME, FROM FIRST TO LAST!

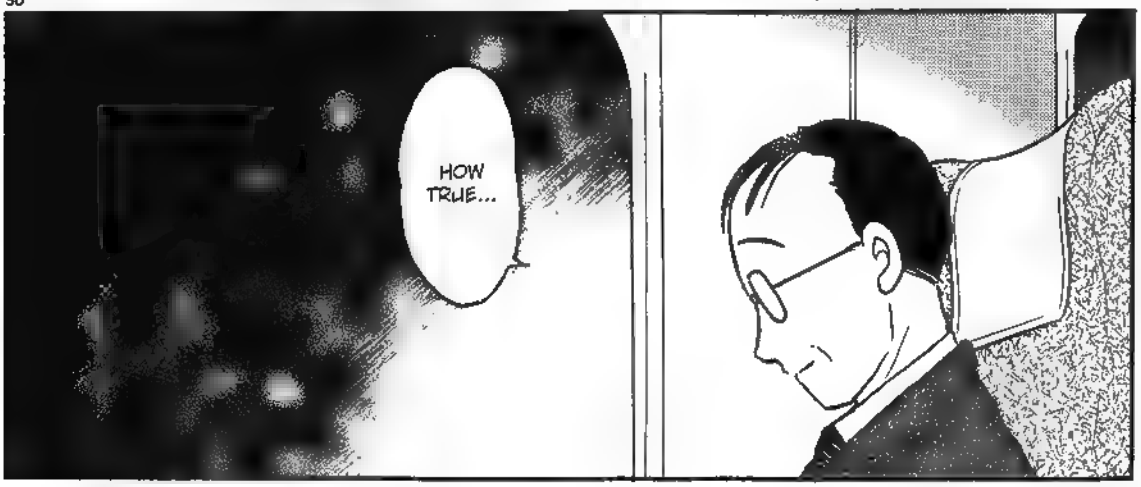
AND MOTIONLESS FOREVER STANDS THE PAST

ARROW-SWIFT, THE PRESENT SWEEPETH

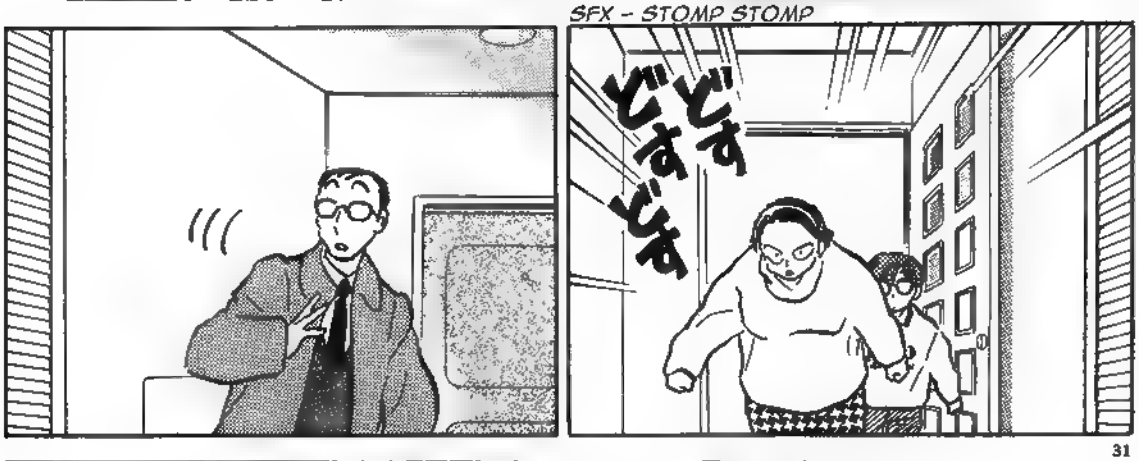
LOITERING SLOW, THE FUTURE CREEPETH

THREEFOLD THE STRIDE OF TIME, FROM FIRST TO LAST!

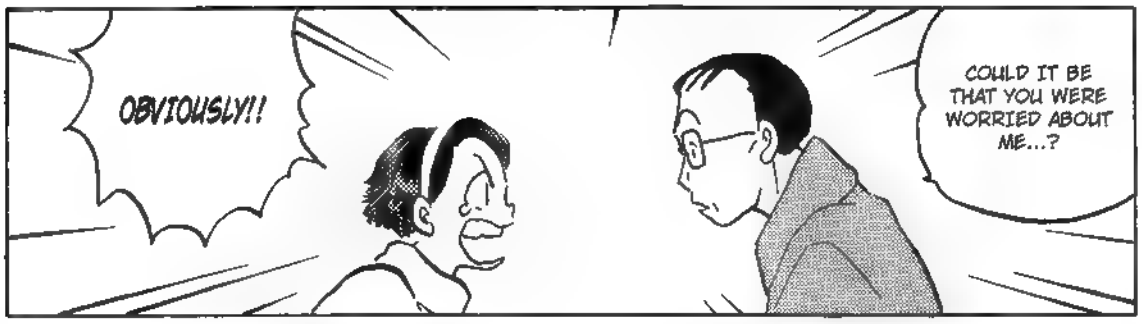
30 T/N* THE QUOTATION IS FROM FRIERICH SCHILLER (1759-1805), GERMAN POET AND PHILOSOPHER.

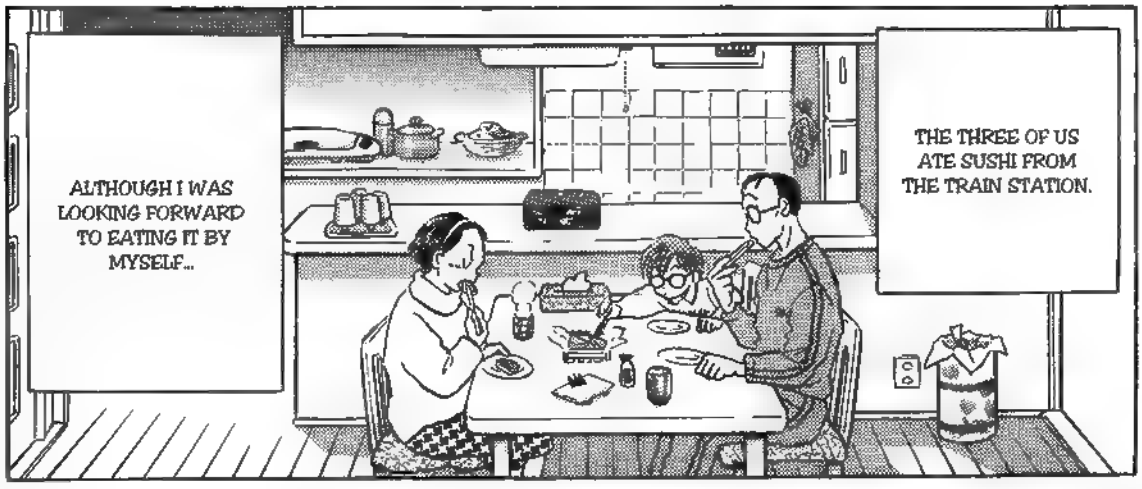


SFX – STOMP STOMP

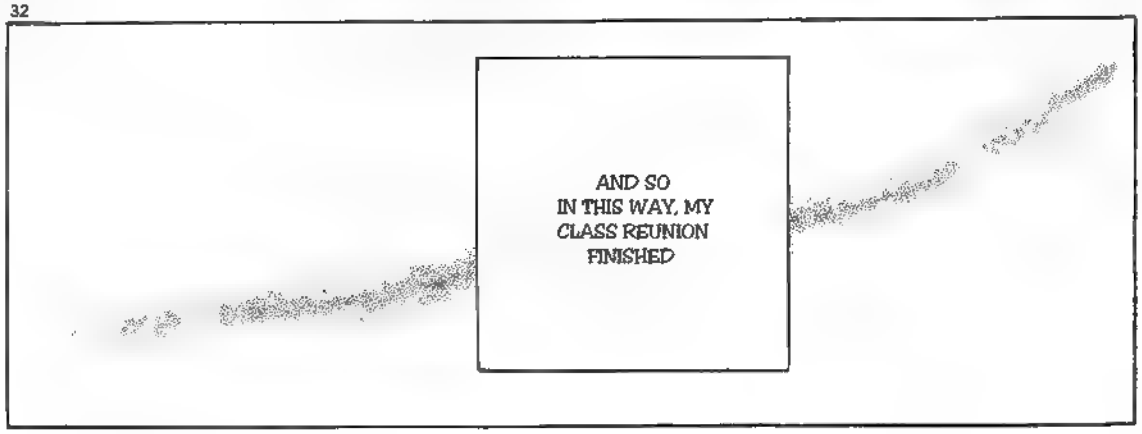


31



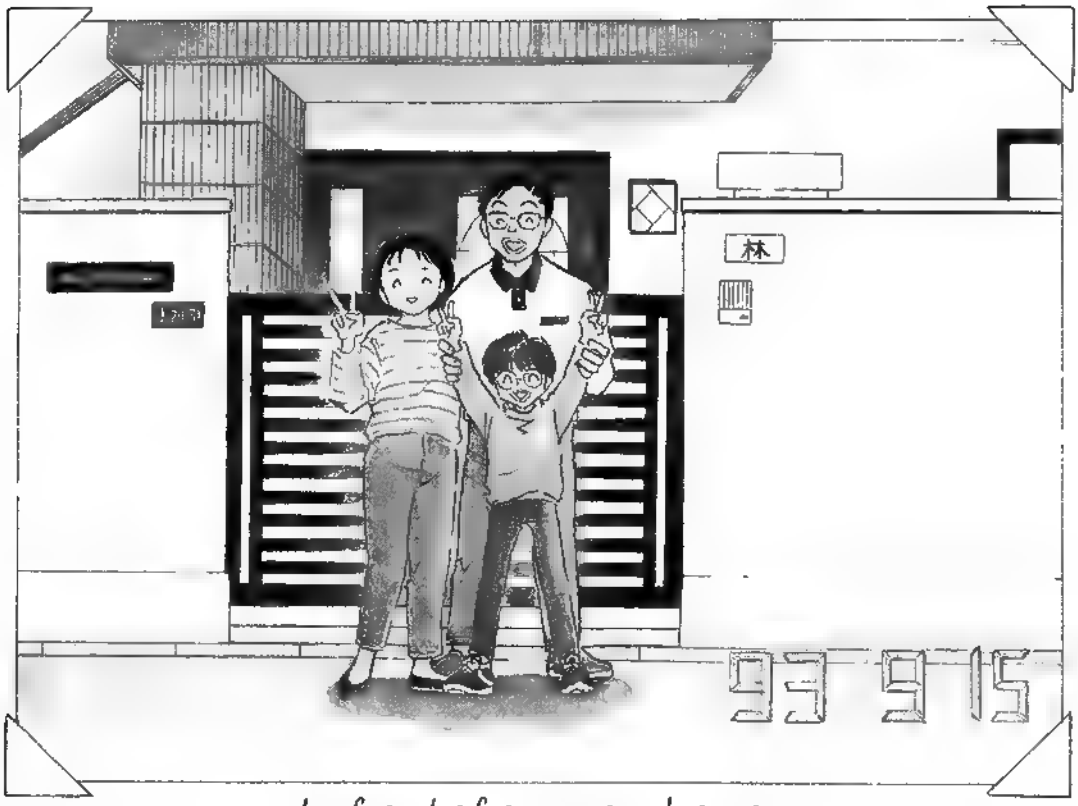


32

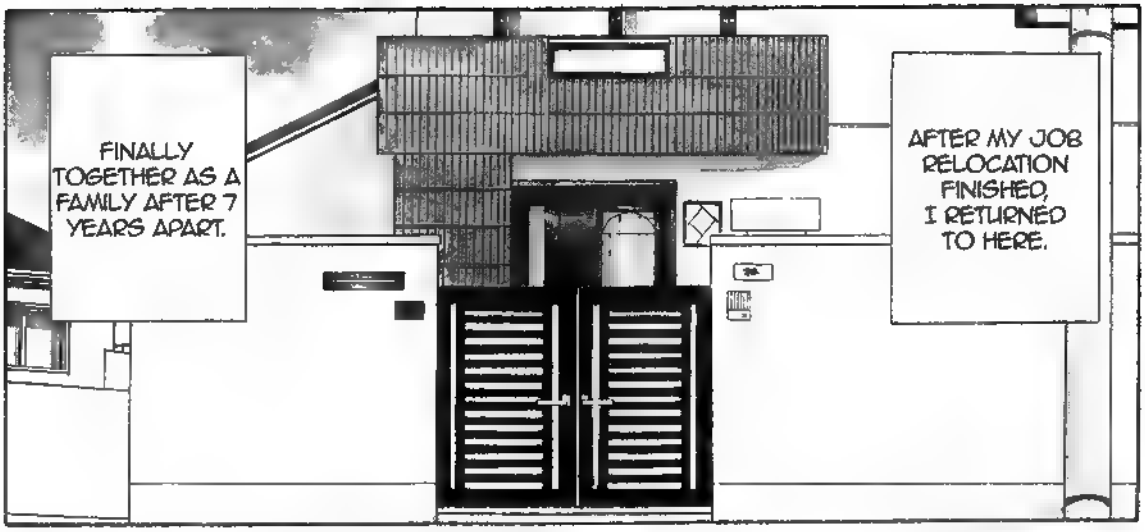


※作品中の言葉は、ドイツの劇作家・詩人であるシラー(一七五九―一八〇五)によるものです。

OLD MAN GRAFFITI

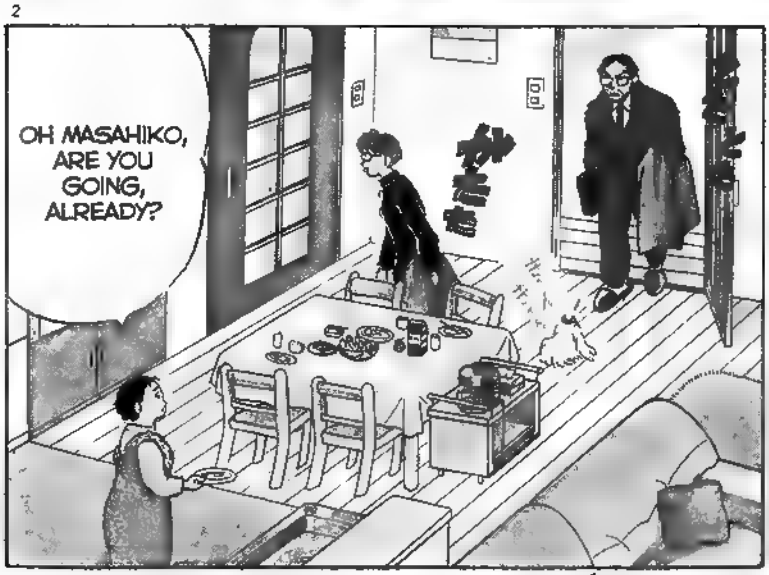


In front of our new home

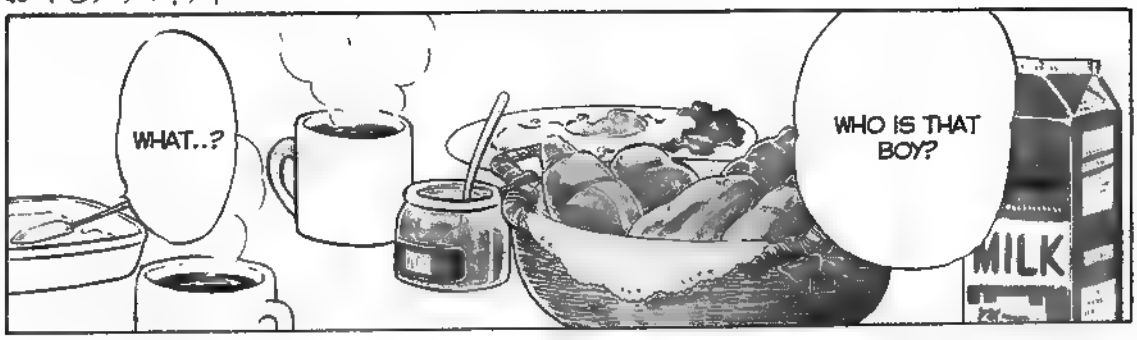

FINALLY TOGETHER AS A FAMILY AFTER 7 YEARS APART.
AFTER MY JOB RELOCATION FINISHED, I RETURNED TO HERE.

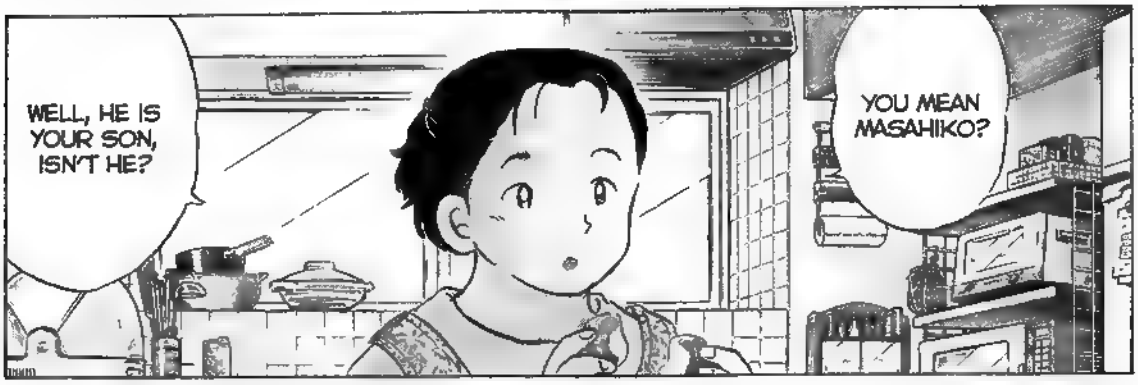
...
しゃが
しゃが
BUT A YOUNG BOY I DON'T RECOGNIZE LIVES HERE.

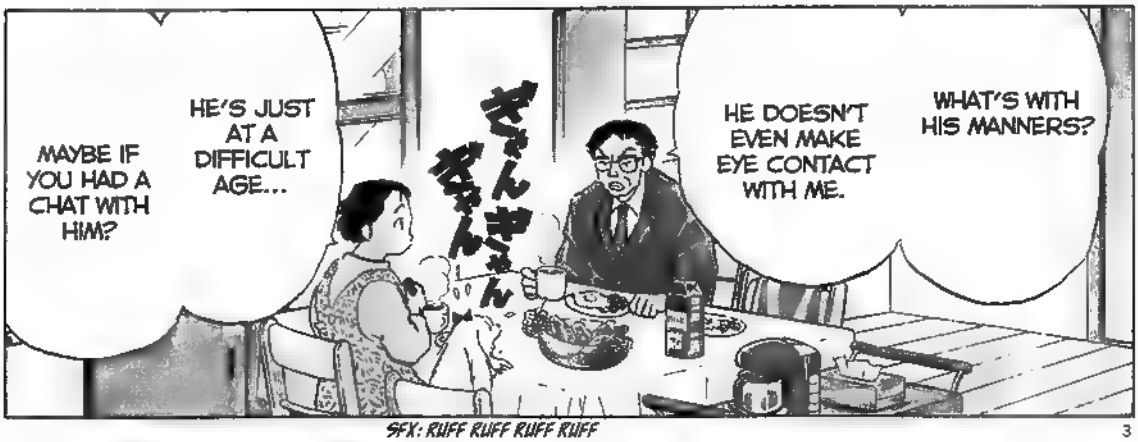
2


OH MASAHIKO, ARE YOU GOING, ALREADY?

きゃんきゃんきゃん
A STRANGE DOG IS HERE TOO.

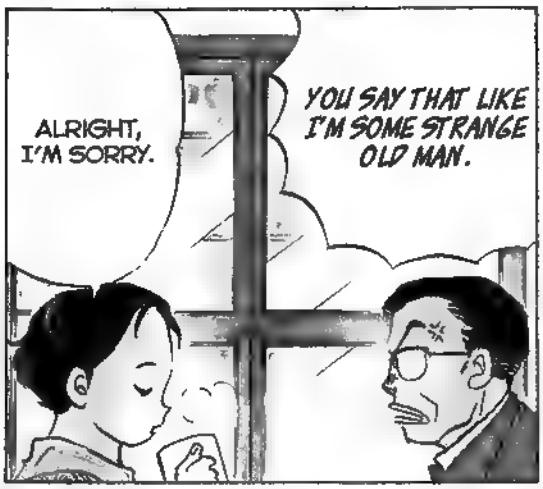





MAYBE IF YOU HAD A CHAT WITH HIM?
HE'S JUST AT A DIFFICULT AGE...
ぎゃんぎゃんぎゃん
HE DOESN'T EVEN MAKE EYE CONTACT WITH ME.
WHAT'S WITH HIS MANNERS?

SFX: RUFF RUFF RUFF RUFF

3



THE NUMBER ONE PROBLEM IS OF COURSE...

I CAN'T EVEN RELAX AT MY OWN HOME.

BAH, IT'S MASAHIKO.

THIS IS THE LOCAL EXPRESS FOR IKEBUKURO. THE NEXT STOP WILL BE. .

I JUST DON'T GET ALONG WITH MY HIGH SCHOOL FRESHMAN SON, MASAHIKO.

HMPH...

... I GUESS THIS MEANS HE LEFT THE HOUSE EARLY JUST TO AVOID ME.

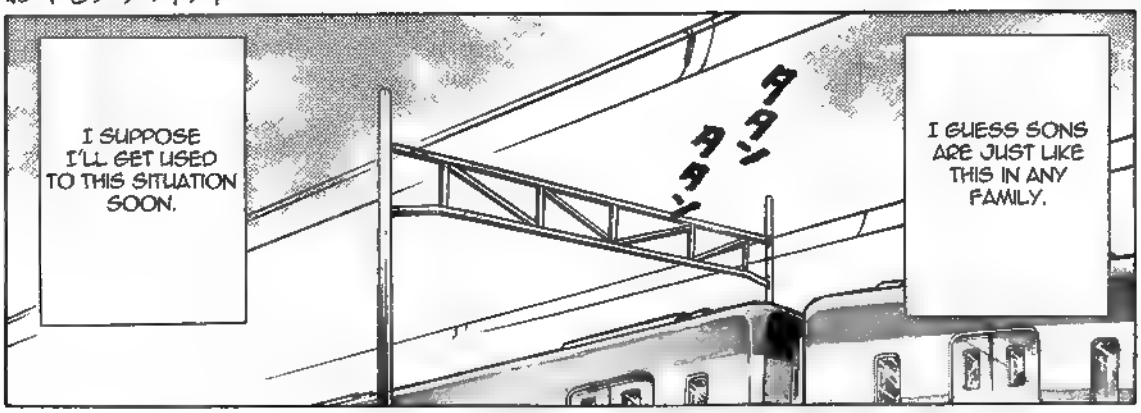
WE TOOK THE SAME TRAIN, HUH?

4

MY WIFE JUST SIGHS.

I GUESS IT'S BECAUSE YOU'VE BEEN APART FOR SEVEN YEARS...

YOU USED TO GET ALONG SO WELL IN THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DAYS.


I SUPPOSE I'LL GET USED TO THIS SITUATION SOON.
タタン
タタン
I GUESS SONS ARE JUST LIKE THIS IN ANY FAMILY.

MY HOME WAS SUBJECTED TO A HORRENDOUS ORDEAL.
HOWEVER, THESE MINOR PROBLEMS WERE SOON FORGOTTEN..

SEX
SEX
SEX
SEX
SEX
...
SEX

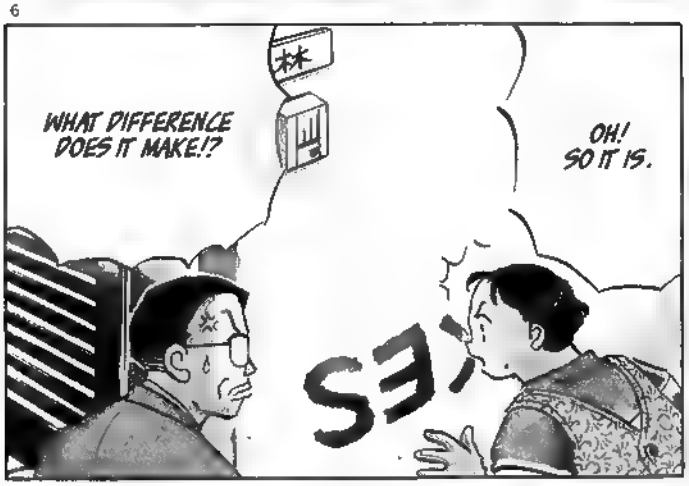
HUH?
どす
どす
WHAT'S GOING ON OUTSIDE!?
HEY,

IT WON'T COME OFF...
IT'S NO GOOD.

IT'S DISGRACEFUL! GET RID OF IT IMMEDIATELY.
GRAFFITI...
OH NO.
SEX

OH, YOU'RE BACK MASAHIKO.

6

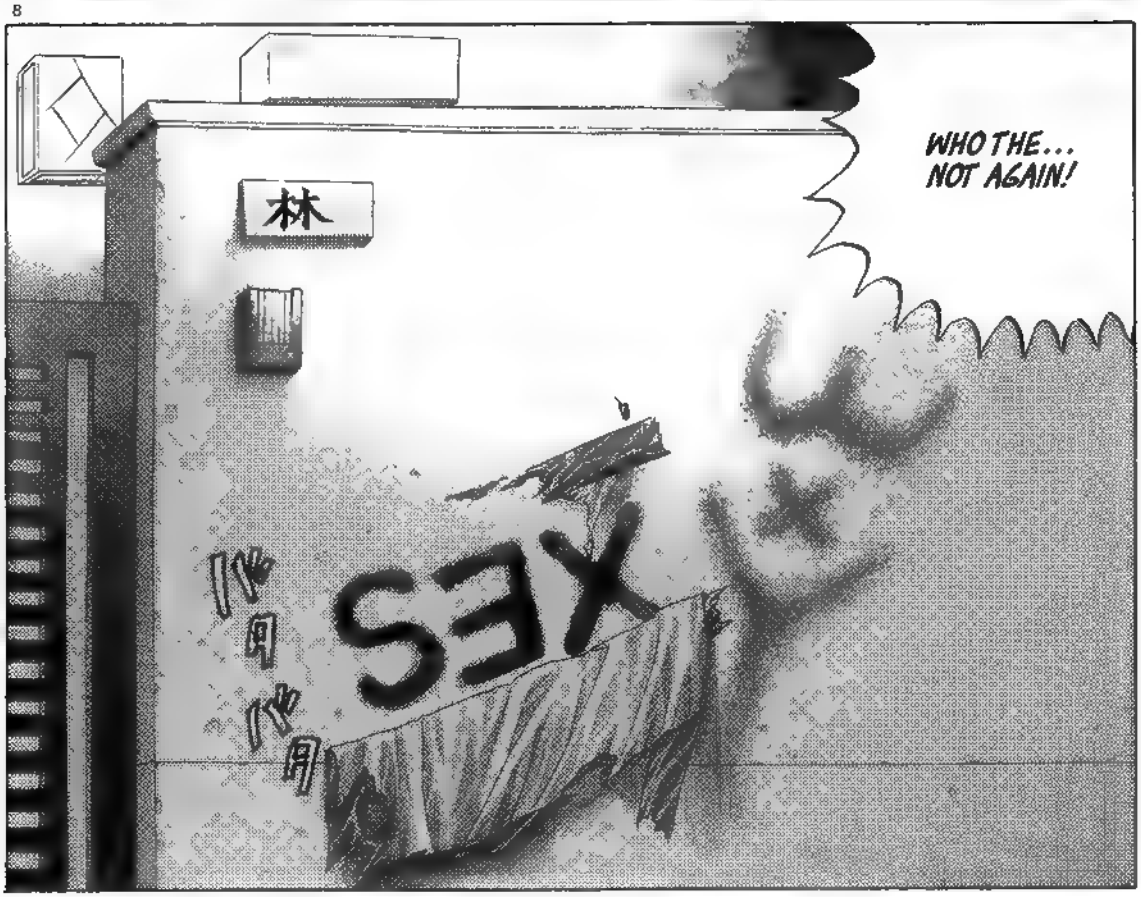

WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE!?
OH! SO IT IS.
SEX

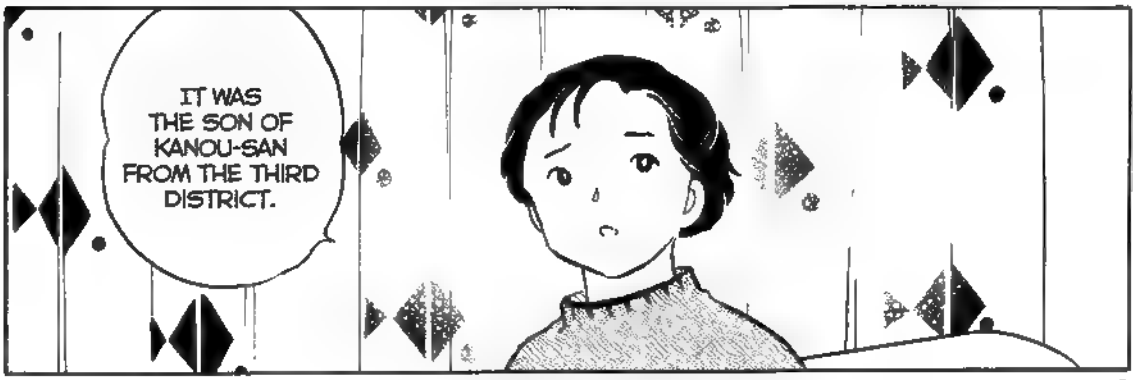
THE "E" IS BACKWARDS.

HUH?
SO IS MASAHIKO ALWAYS LIKE THIS?
WHO KNOWS...
MAYBE YOU SHOULD ASK MASAHIKO YOURSELF.
WHAT'S HE GETTING UP TO AND WHERE'S HE GOING UNTIL THIS LATE AT NIGHT?
COMING HOME LATE.
SINCE THEN, HE'S HASN'T REALLY SPOKEN TO ME...
HE DIDN'T PASS THE ENTRANCE EXAM FOR HIS FAVORITE HIGH SCHOOL.
HE DOESN'T TALK TO ME.
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
7
EXACTLY.
THAT'S WHY YOU SHOULD TALK TO HIM.
IT'S NOT EXACTLY THE END OF THE WORLD.
JUST PASSING EXAMS.

林
ラクガキするな!!
SIGN: NO GRAFFITI!!
HOWEVER, I DIDN'T GET AROUND TO IT.

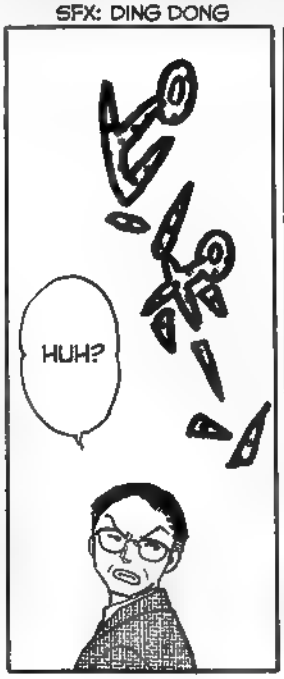
8

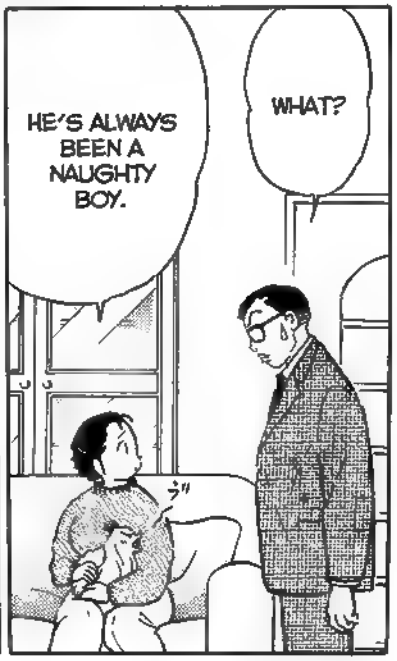

林
WHO THE... NOT AGAIN!
SEX

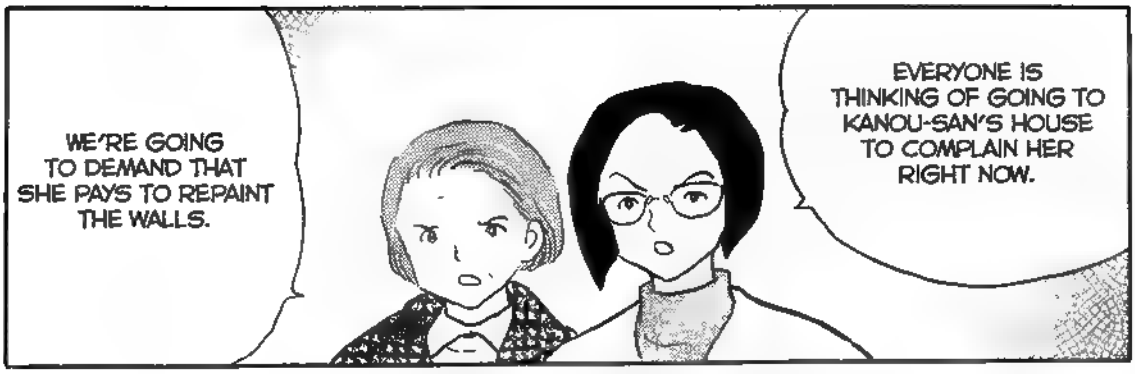


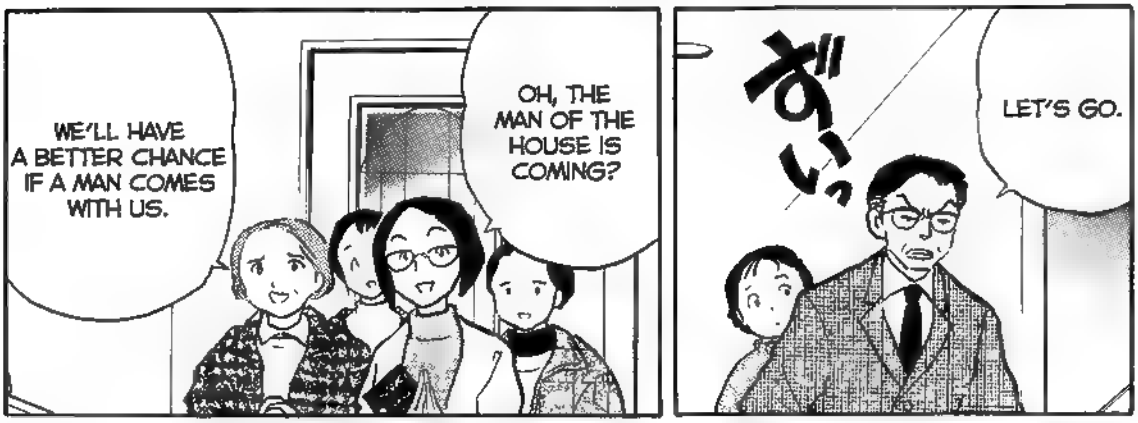
SFX: DING DONG

9





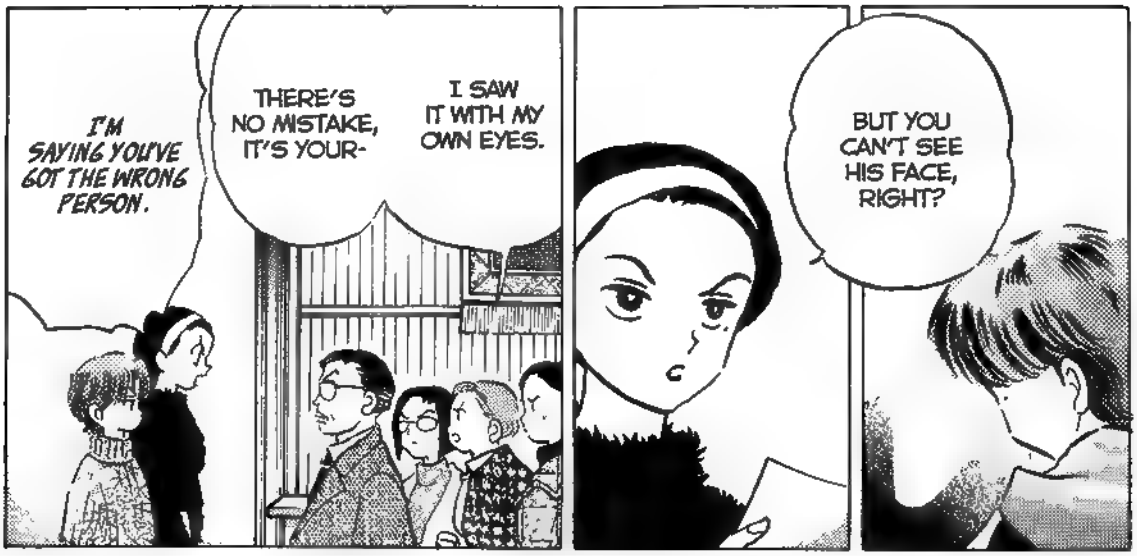

WE'RE GOING TO DEMAND THAT SHE PAYS TO REPAINT THE WALLS.
EVERYONE IS THINKING OF GOING TO KANOU-SAN'S HOUSE TO COMPLAIN HER RIGHT NOW.


WE'LL HAVE A BETTER CHANCE IF A MAN COMES WITH US.
OH, THE MAN OF THE HOUSE IS COMING?
がいっ
LET'S GO.

10

AND WHAT PROOF DO YOU HAVE?
...
MY BOY!?
KANOU
がいっ

GAH!
Hayashi
SEX
DO YOU HAVE ANY?
I SECRETLY TOOK THIS.
TSUBASA-CHAN, TELL THE TRUTH.
THIS IS WITHOUT A DOUBT MY HOME...
11
WE EVEN HAVE PHOTOGRAPHIC PROOF.
HOLD ON...
SUCH A RIDICULOUS THING.
WHY WOULD I DO THAT?
MAMA HAS FAITH IN YOU, YOU KNOW.
YOU DIDN'T DO THIS, RIGHT!?


I'M SAYING YOU'VE GOT THE WRONG PERSON.
THERE'S NO MISTAKE, IT'S YOUR-
I SAW IT WITH MY OWN EYES.
BUT YOU CAN'T SEE HIS FACE, RIGHT?

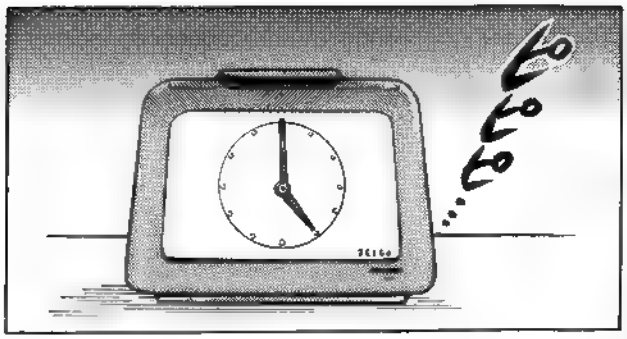
IT'S UNFORGIVABLE!!
A LARGE GROUP, COMING HERE UNINVITED AT SUCH A LATE HOUR, JUST TO TREAT MY SON LIKE A CRIMINAL!
WHAT IS IT WITH YOU PEOPLE?

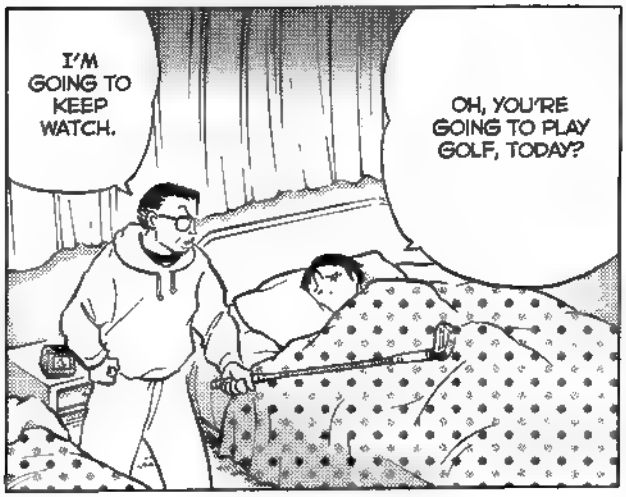
12

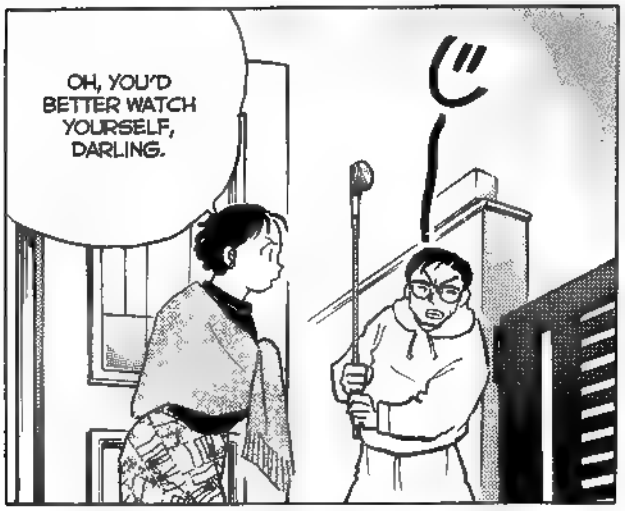
ぼかーん
WH-WHAT THE!? WHAT'S WITH THIS MOTHER...

HMM, BUT...
AS IF SUCH PARENT COULD HAVE A WELL-BEHAVED KID.
KANOU-SAN DEFINITELY REFUSES TO ADMIT HER OWN MISTAKES. SHE'S FAMOUS FOR IT.
Hayash
SEX
MAYBE THE BOY WAS SO SHOCKED THAT HE'LL STOP DOING GRAFFITI.
SINCE EVERYONE COMPLAINED TOGETHER,
13
BUT HE SPELLED "BAKA" WRONG, THE LAST CHARACTER SHOULD BE; 鹿 HE REALLY IS AN IDIOT.
HOW NAIVE.
ぶ"ぶ"ぶ"
SEX
馬鹿

T/N: 馬鹿 baka (idiot)


...LO LO LO


I'M GOING TO KEEP WATCH.
OH, YOU'RE GOING TO PLAY GOLF, TODAY?


OH, YOU'D BETTER WATCH YOURSELF, DARLING.

14

KIDS THESE DAYS CAN BE PRETTY SCARY.

I GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO CATCH HIM IN THE ACT.
I MUSN'T FAIL!

I DON'T WANT YOU GETTING STABBED...
HE WON'T GET THE CHANCE.
I DON'T LIKE THAT EITHER...
SIGH.
I GUESS HE'S NOT COMING TODAY.
HE'S... S-SMOKING!!
IT'S HIM!
BAH!

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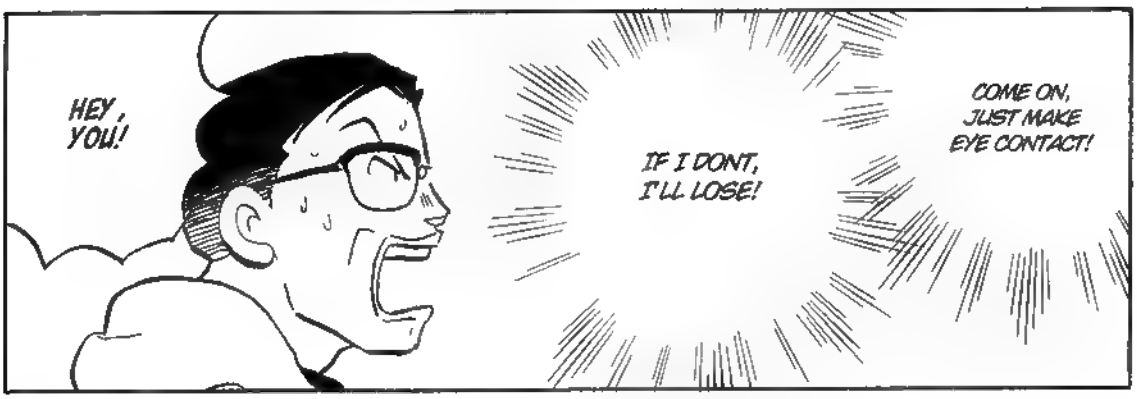
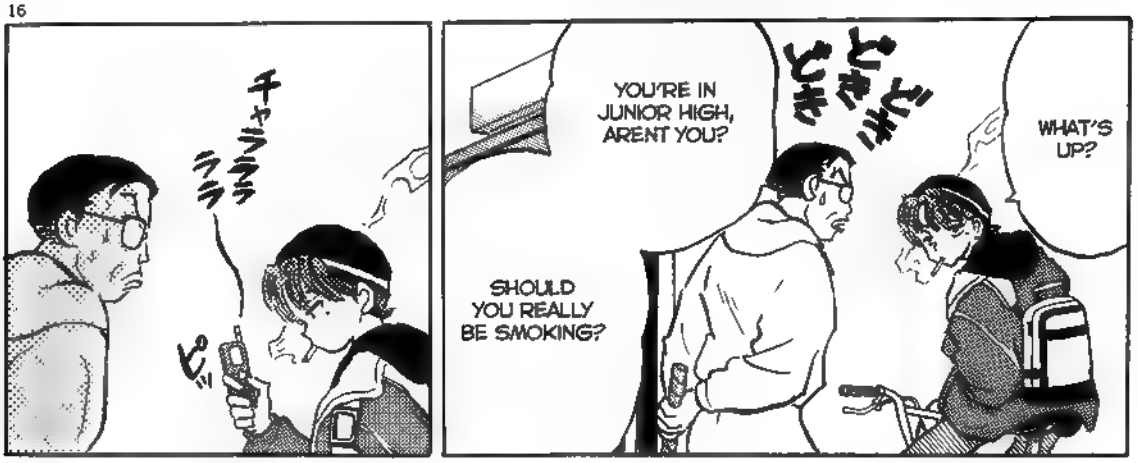
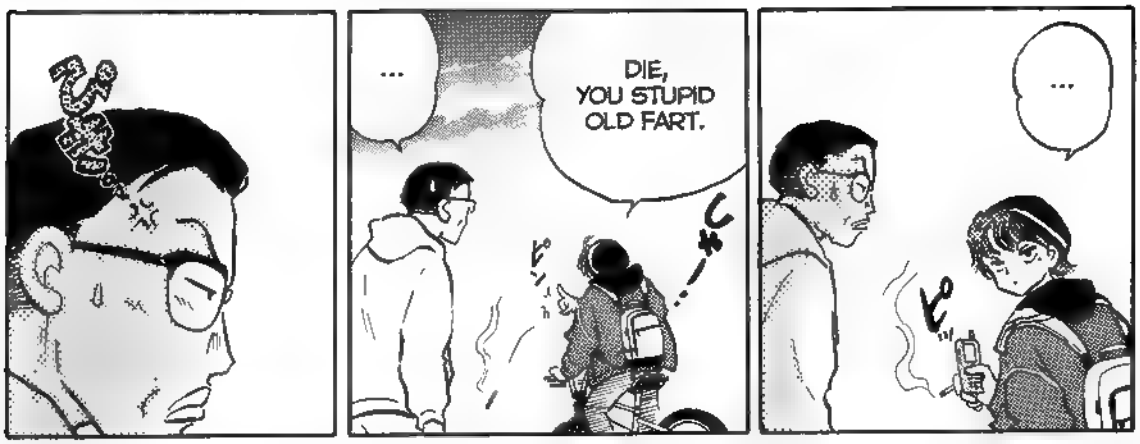
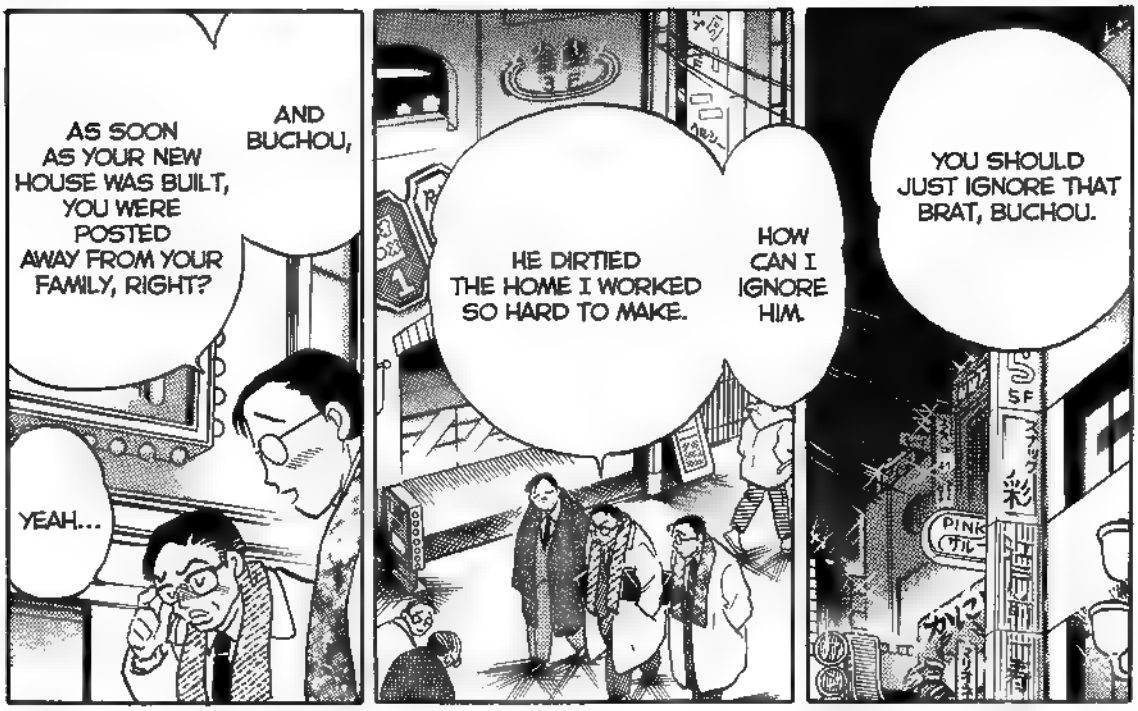
...
WH-WHAT SHOULD I DO!?
IF HE SEES ME, I MIGHT BE IN TROUBLE...
HE'S WATCHING ME...
HE'S A DELINQUENT!
HE'S NOT A NAUGHTY BOY.
ビキ
ビキ
ビキ


HEY, YOU!
IF I DONT, I'LL LOSE!
COME ON, JUST MAKE EYE CONTACT!

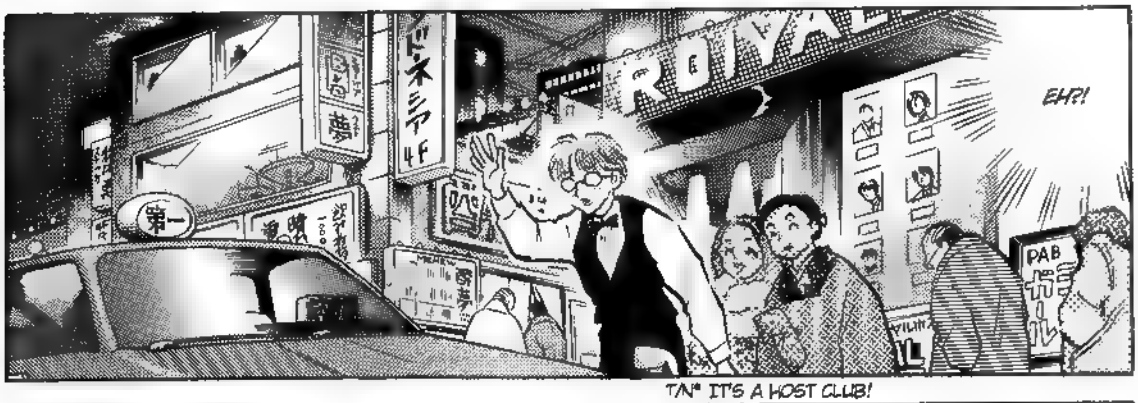
16


チャラララ ラララ
ピッ
YOU'RE IN JUNIOR HIGH, ARENT YOU?
SHOULD YOU REALLY BE SMOKING?
どきっ
どきっ
どきっ
WHAT'S UP?

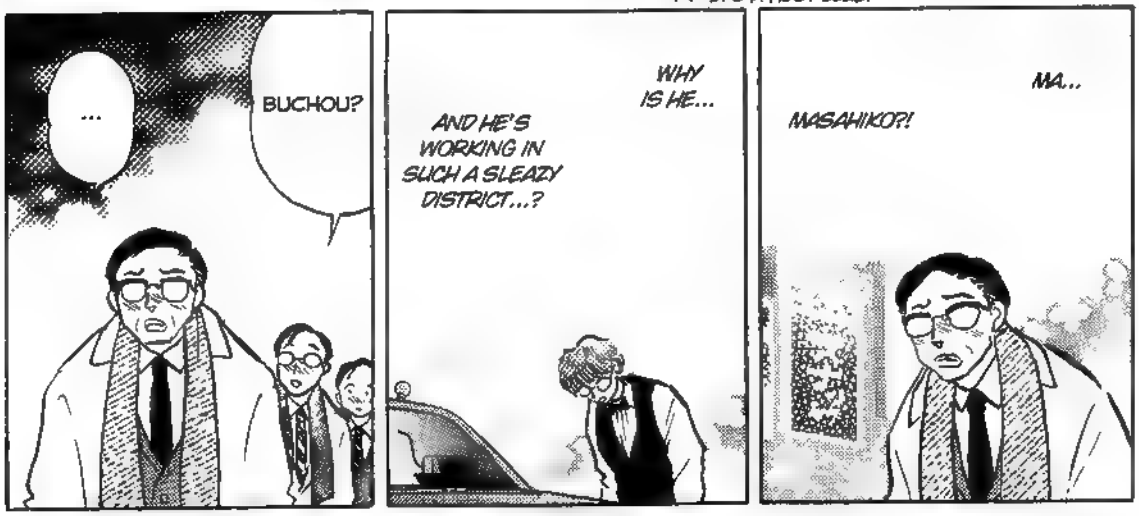



AS SOON AS YOUR NEW HOUSE WAS BUILT, YOU WERE POSTED AWAY FROM YOUR FAMILY, RIGHT?
AND BUCHOU,
YEAH...
HE DIRTIED THE HOME I WORKED SO HARD TO MAKE.
HOW CAN I IGNORE HIM.
YOU SHOULD JUST IGNORE THAT BRAT, BUCHOU.
PINK

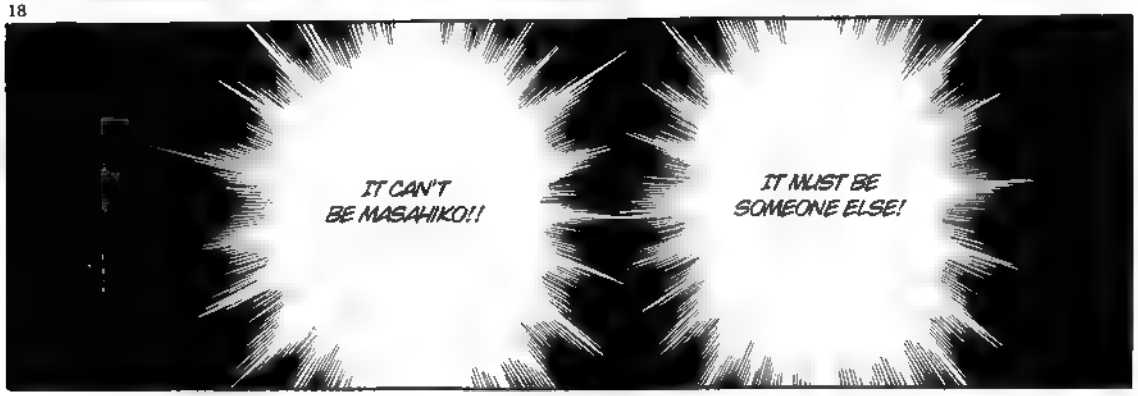
TN* BUCHOU= SECTION CHIEF

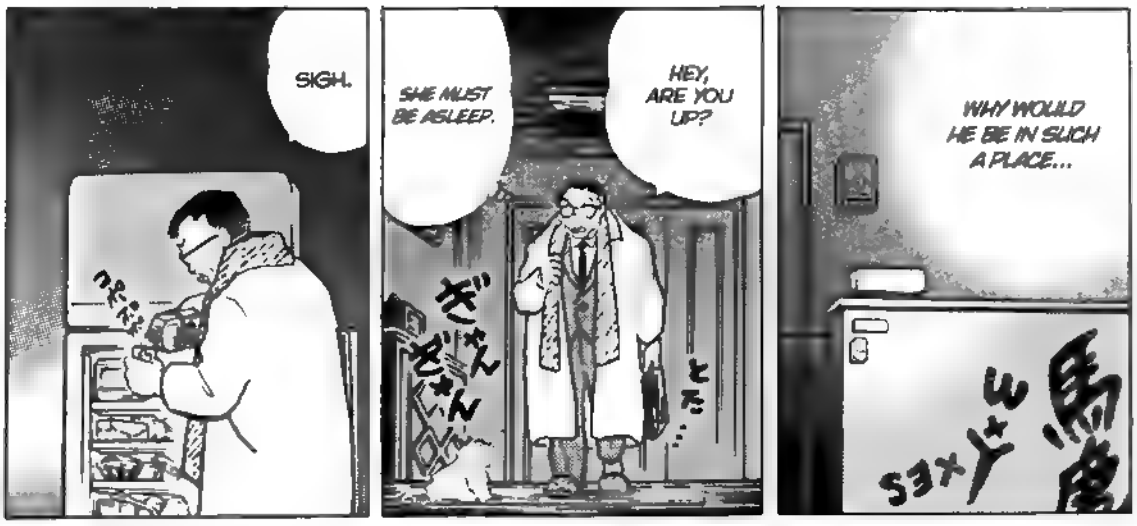


TN* IT'S A HOST CLUB!

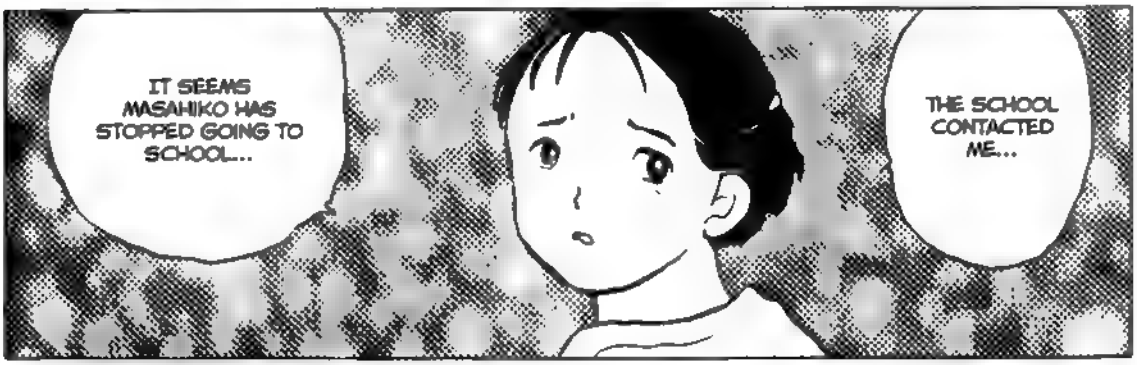


18

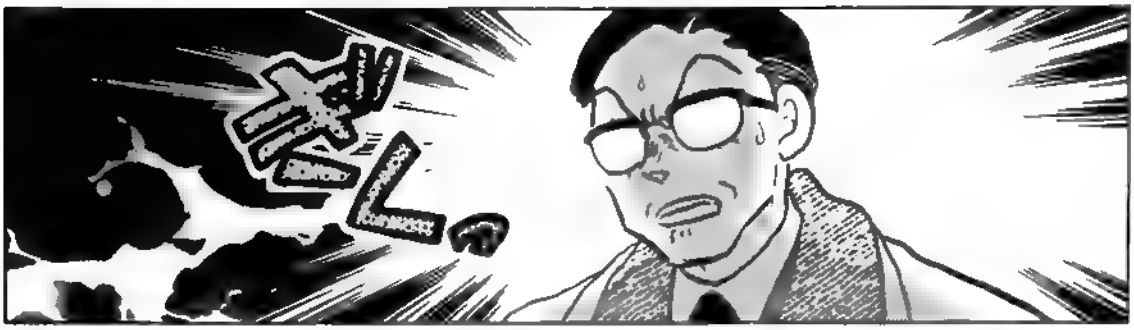



SIGH.
SHE MUST BE ASLEEP.
HEY, ARE YOU UP?
WHY WOULD HE BE IN SUCH A PLACE...

DARLING...
SITTING AROUND IN THE DARK...
WH- WHAT ARE YOU PLAYING AT?


IT SEEMS MASAHIKO HAS STOPPED GOING TO SCHOOL...
THE SCHOOL CONTACTED ME...

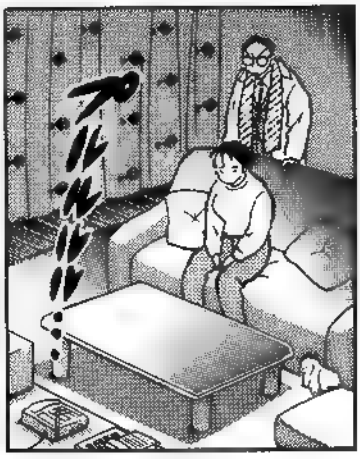
19



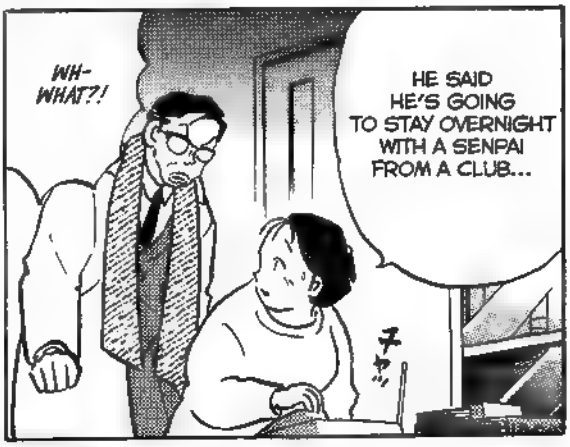
THAT WAS MASAHIKO?
SO DOES THIS MEAN...

WELL, SEE YOU.
OH, I SEE.

OH, MASAHIKO.
YES..

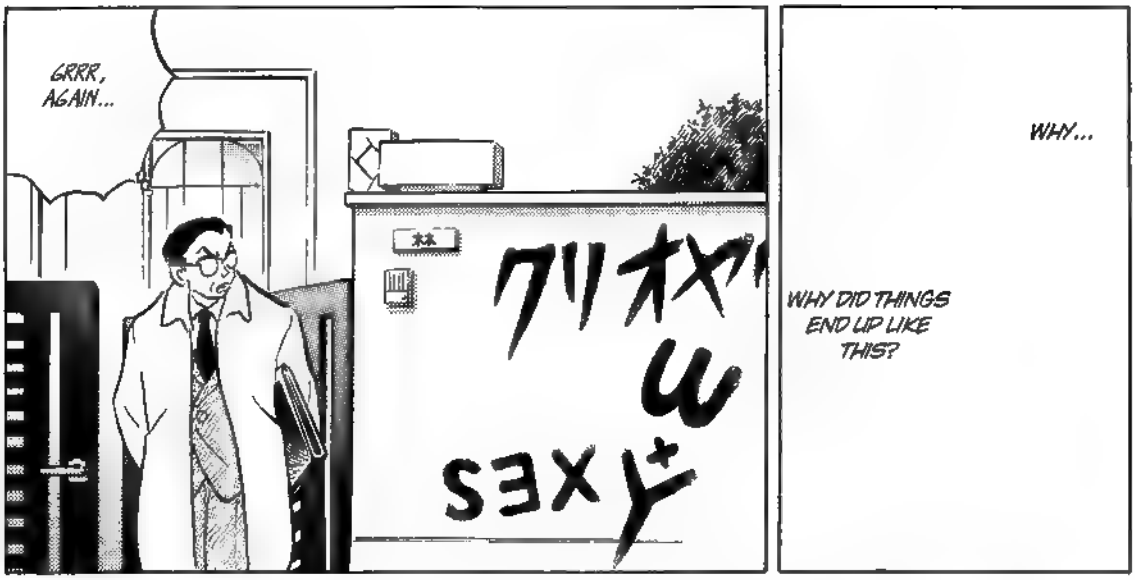

プルルルル

AH...
DARLING, PLEASE TALK TO HIM MAN TO MAN.
ぎゃん
きゃん

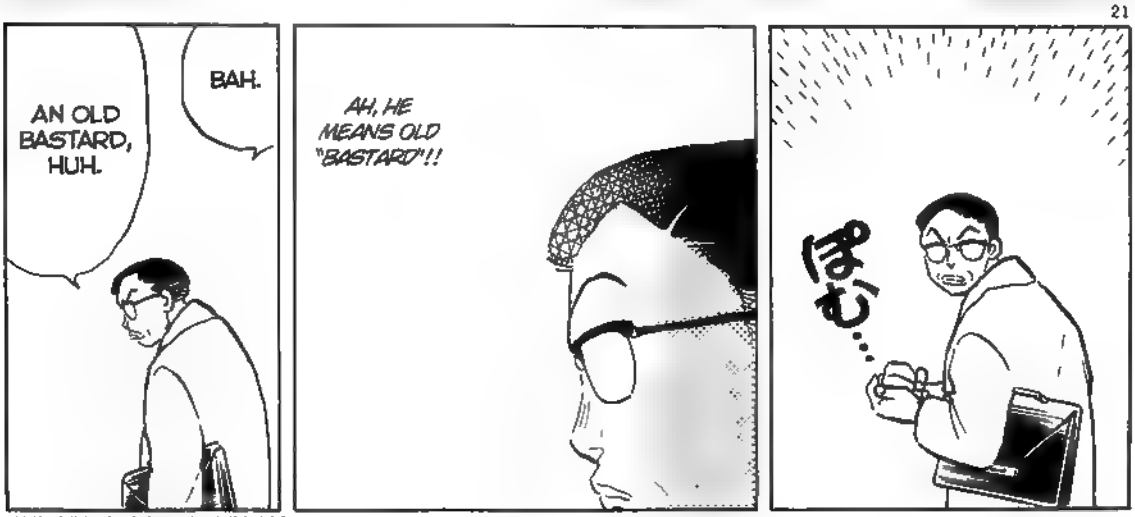

WH-WHAT?!
HE SAID HE'S GOING TO STAY OVERNIGHT WITH A SENPAI FROM A CLUB...
ヂャ

20

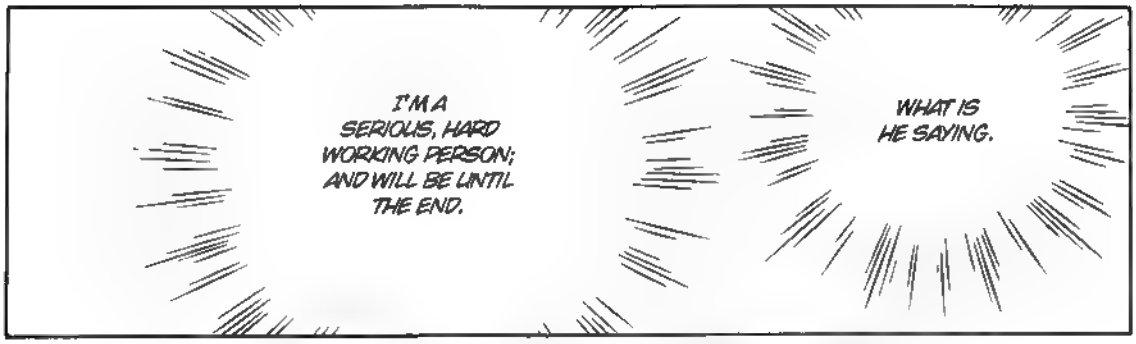
YOU DON'T THINK I'M FRIGHTENED TOO, IDIOT?
I'M ALREADY TOO SCARED TO ASK!

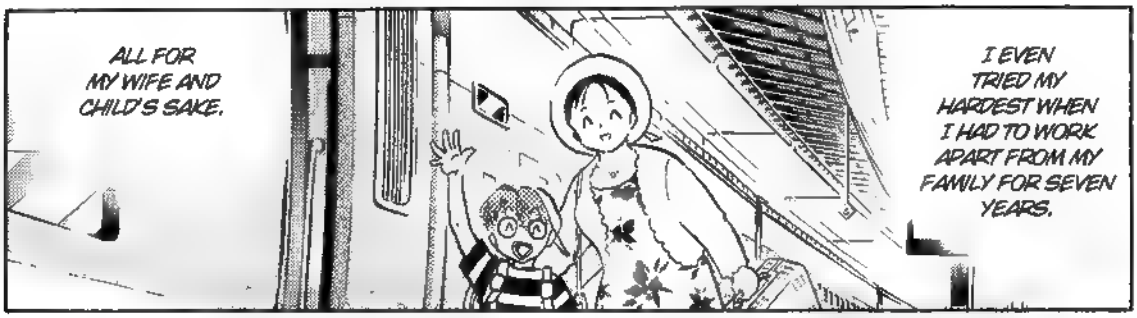


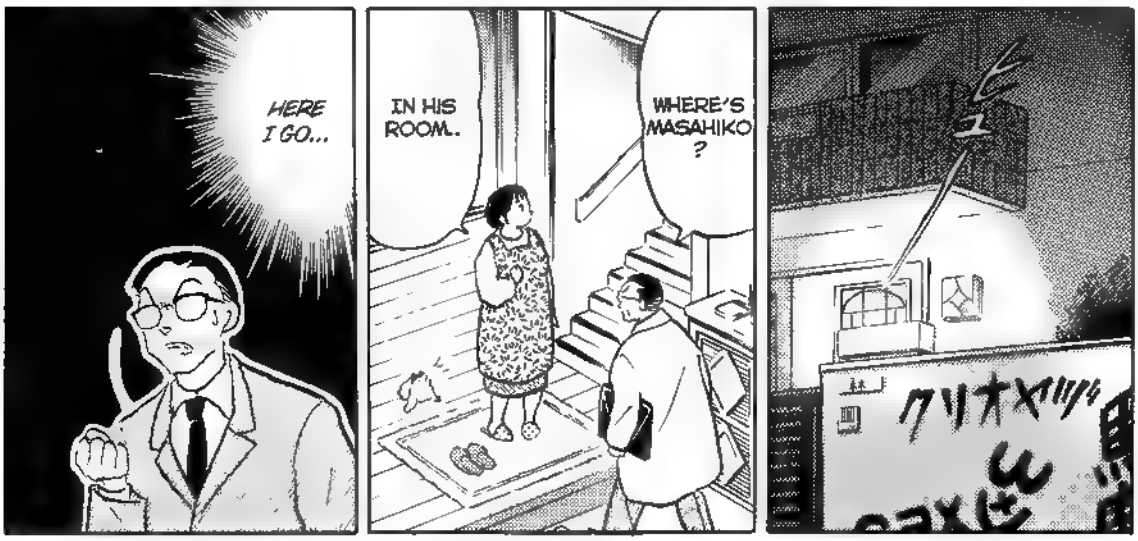
21



T/N* THIS KID REALLY CAN'T SPELL.


I'M A SERIOUS, HARD WORKING PERSON; AND WILL BE UNTIL THE END.
WHAT IS HE SAYING.

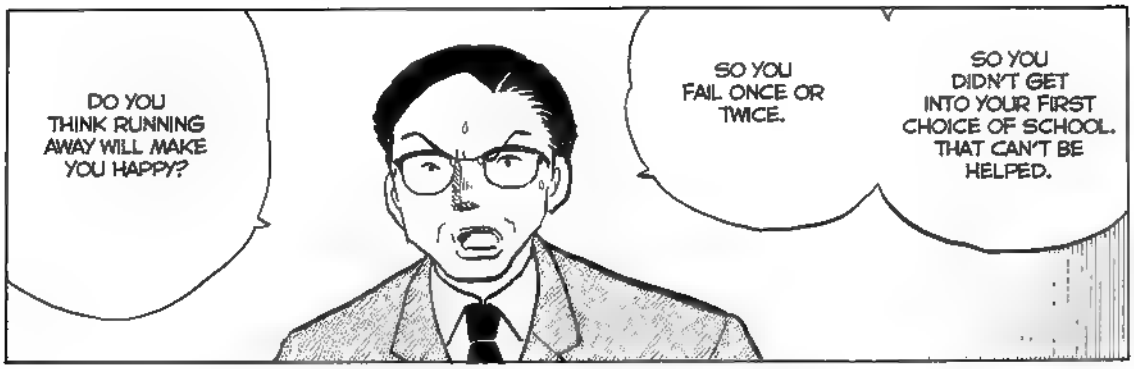

ALL FOR MY WIFE AND CHILD'S SAKE.
I EVEN TRIED MY HARDEST WHEN I HAD TO WORK APART FROM MY FAMILY FOR SEVEN YEARS.

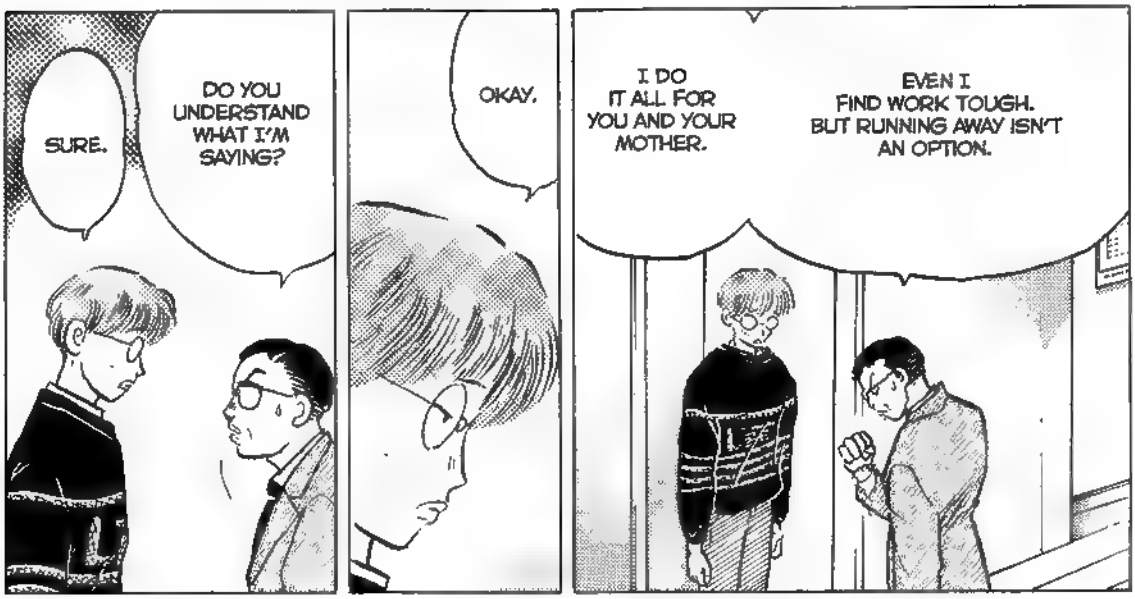

HERE I GO...
IN HIS ROOM..
WHERE'S MASAHIKO ?

22

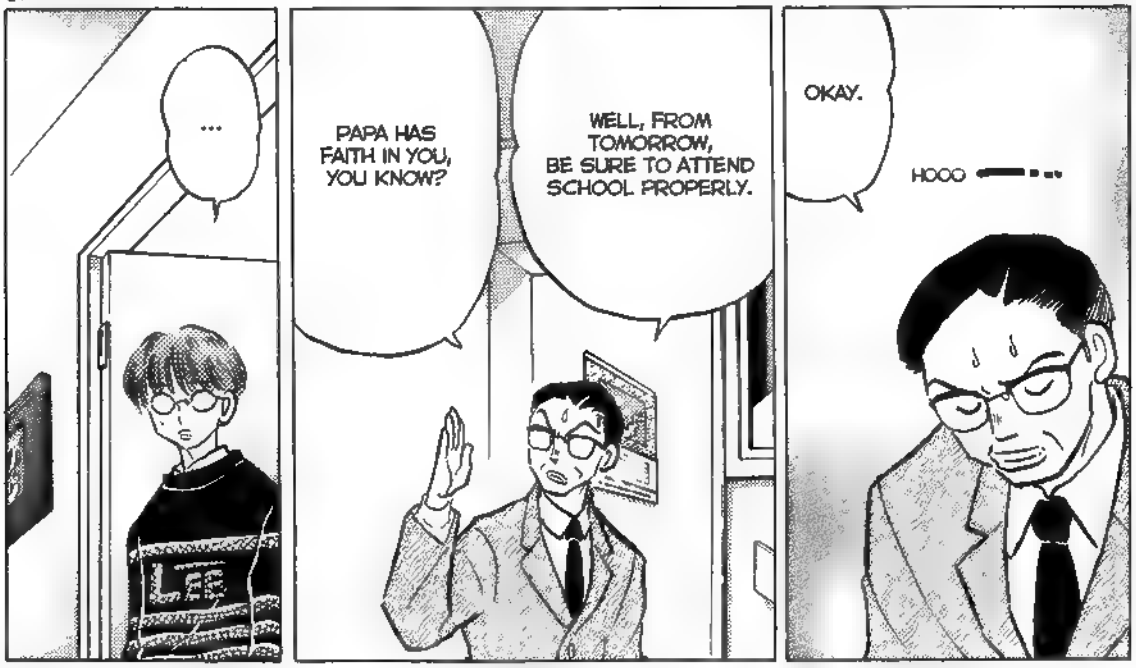
ドンドン!
OPEN UP!
HEY, MASAHIKO,

HE-HE'S GROWN TALLER THAN ME!?
HE'S LOOKING DOWN ON ME...
ずいっ
WHAT?
MASAHIKO, I KNOW YOU'VE BEEN SKIPPING SCHOOL!
AS IF I'LL GIVE IN!
23
SO YOU'D BETTER LISTEN WELL.
NOW SEE HERE, MASAHIKO! I'M GOING TO SAY THIS ONCE.
GOOD, HE'S FALTERING...
どきどきどき
...
ぴくん...


DO YOU THINK RUNNING AWAY WILL MAKE YOU HAPPY?
SO YOU FAIL ONCE OR TWICE.
SO YOU DIDN'T GET INTO YOUR FIRST CHOICE OF SCHOOL. THAT CAN'T BE HELPED.


SURE.
DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT I'M SAYING?
OKAY.
I DO IT ALL FOR YOU AND YOUR MOTHER.
EVEN I FIND WORK TOUGH. BUT RUNNING AWAY ISN'T AN OPTION.

24

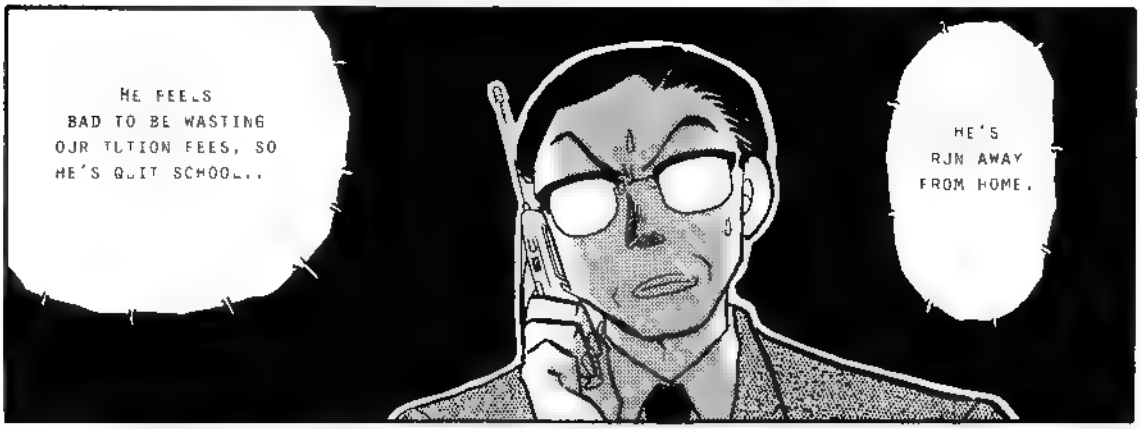

...
PAPA HAS FAITH IN YOU, YOU KNOW?
WELL, FROM TOMORROW, BE SURE TO ATTEND SCHOOL PROPERLY.
OKAY.
HOOO

I SAID WHAT WAS NEEDED TO BE SAID.
YES.

IT'S MASAHIKO ...
YOU SHOULDN'T BE CALLING ME HERE AT...

HUH?
OH, DARLING! COME HOME SOON!

Starts


HE FEELS BAD TO BE WASTING OUR TUTION FEES, SO HE'S QUIT SCHOOL...
HE'S RUN AWAY FROM HOME.

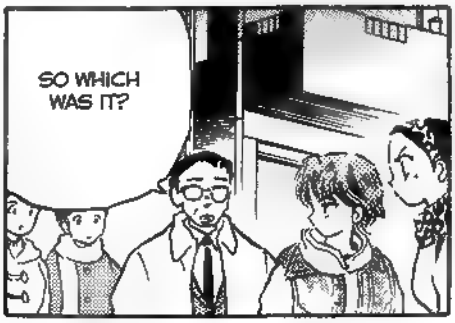
25

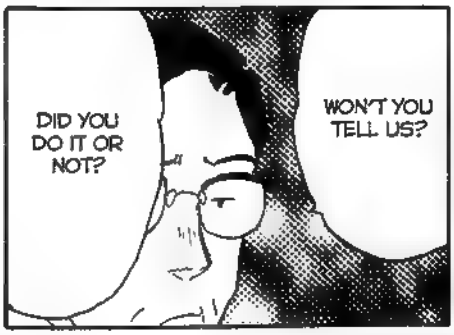
DIDN'T WE HAVE A SERIOUS TALK ABOUT THIS?
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS, MASAHIKO?

MY CHILD DIDN'T DO IT!!
ISN'T THAT...
YOU'RE SO RUDE!
EITHER WAY, YOU NEED TO COME TO THE OFFICE.
THAT'S WHY, JUST TO BE SURE, YOU NEED TO ...
WHY MUST I BE SUBJECT TO THESE FALSE ACCUSATIONS!
A STAFF MEMBER WITNESSED IT.
THAT STUPID GRAFFITI FAMILY.
26
THE LAST TIME, WE LET HIM OFF WITH A WARNING, BUT...
LISTEN, THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME YOUR SON HAS BEEN CAUGHT SHOPLIFTING.
...

MAMA HAS FAITH IN YOU, YOU KNOW?
TSUBASA-CHAN, YOU HAVEN'T BEEN SHOPLIFTING, HAVE YOU!?

IF I DID, WATCHA GONNA DO ABOUT IT?
...
ふん

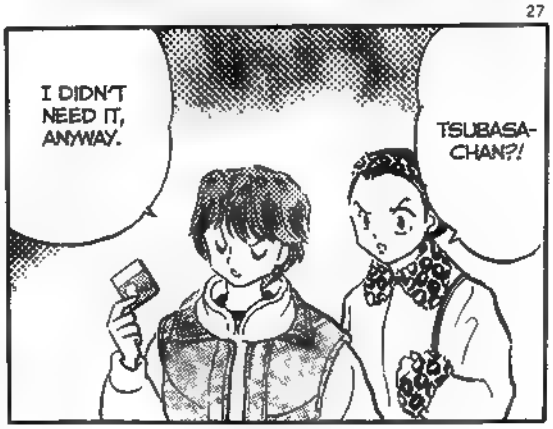

SO WHICH WAS IT?


DID YOU DO IT OR NOT?
WON'T YOU TELL US?

MADAM,
BE QUIET, FOR A SECOND...

27

JUST HOLD ON...
YOU TOO, MADAM.
THIS WAY.

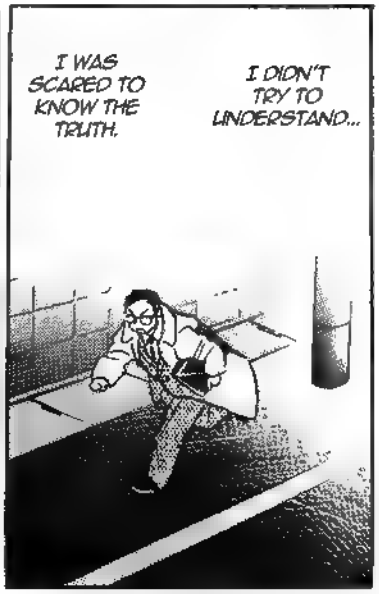

I DIDN'T NEED IT, ANYWAY.
TSUBASA-CHAN?!

THE GOOD PARTS AS WELL AS THE BAD PARTS. PLEASE LOOK CAREFULLY AT BOTH.
PLEASE TRY TO GET REALLY KNOW YOUR SON.
THIS MIGHT BE NONE OF MY BUSINESS, BUT...
MADAM,
THAT CONVERSATION WAS JUST ONE-SIDED.
THAT'S RIGHT.. AT THAT TIME,
28
I DIDN'T TRY TO LISTEN TO MASAHIKO'S SIDE OF THINGS...
EVEN NOW...
IT MIGHT NOT BE TOO LATE FOR YOU.

HOW HE ENDED UP IN SUCH A PLACE...
WHY HE STOPPED GOING TO SCHOOL...

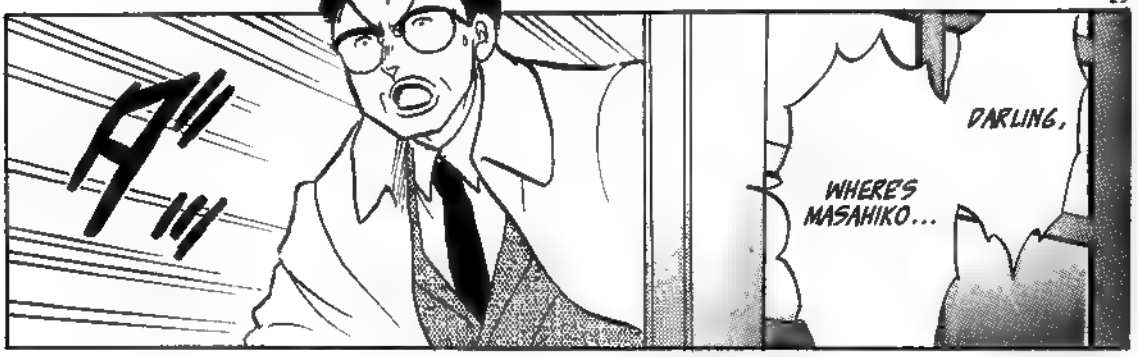
WHAT ARE YOUR PROBLEMS!?
YOUR DREAMS!?

WON'T YOU TELL ME YOUR STORY!?
BUT AM I TOO LATE NOW, MASAHIKO!?


I WAS SCARED TO KNOW THE TRUTH.
I DIDN'T TRY TO UNDERSTAND...

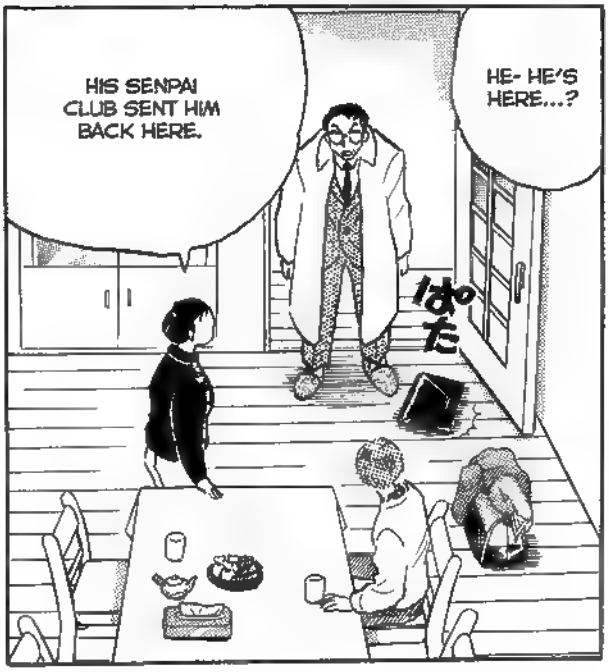
LET'S TALK, MASAHIKO.

29


AH!!!
DARLING,
WHERE'S MASAHIKO...

SORRY.
...
MASAHIKO..

HUH..?
ACTUALLY, IT WAS MY FAULT TOO.


HIS SENPAI CLUB SENT HIM BACK HERE.
HE- HE'S HERE...?
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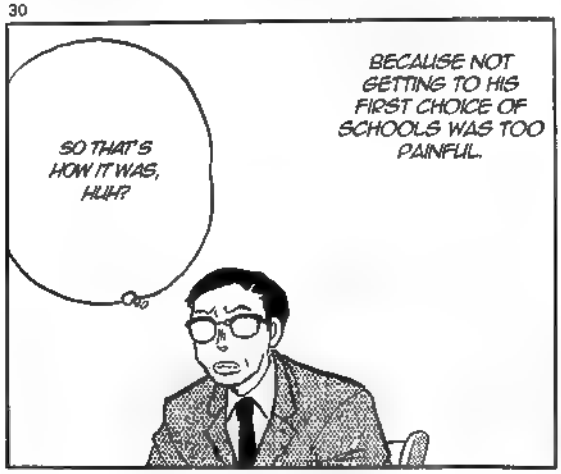
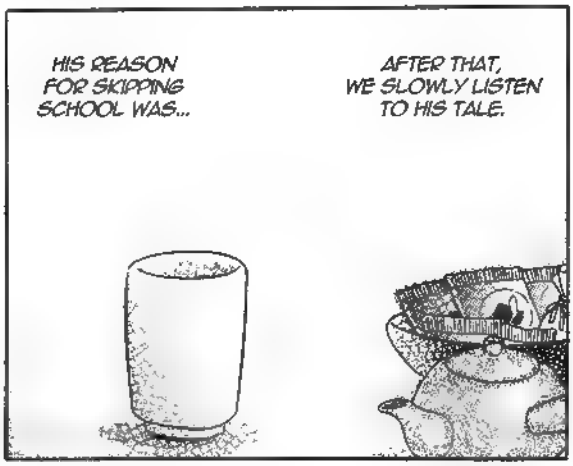
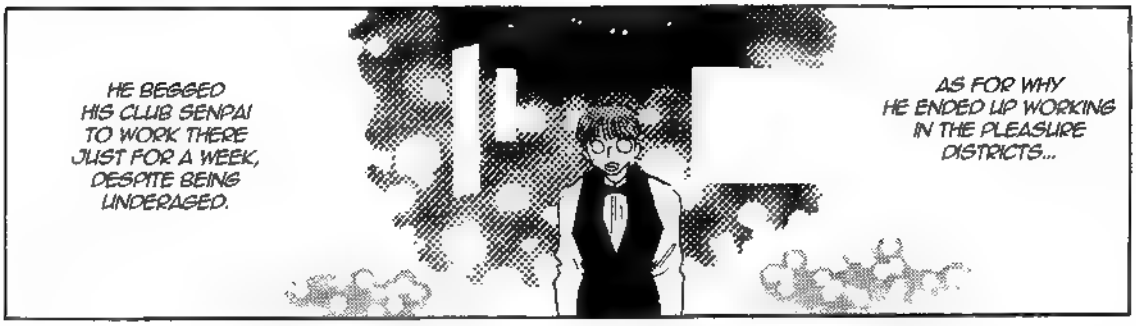
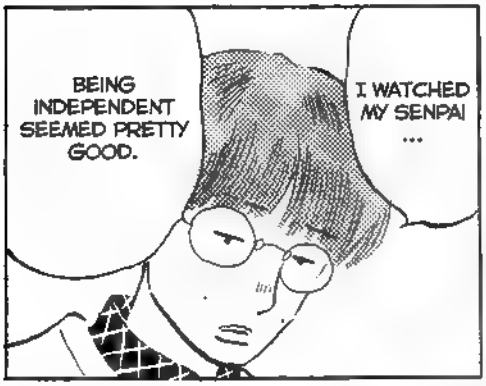
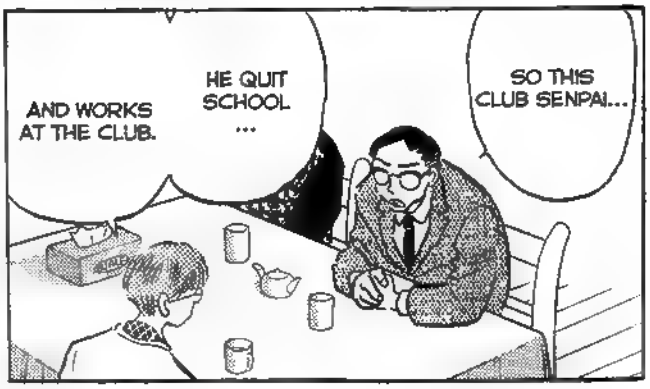
30


SO THAT'S HOW IT WAS, HUH?
BECAUSE NOT GETTING TO HIS FIRST CHOICE OF SCHOOLS WAS TOO PAINFUL.


HIS REASON FOR SKIPPING SCHOOL WAS...
AFTER THAT, WE SLOWLY LISTEN TO HIS TALE.

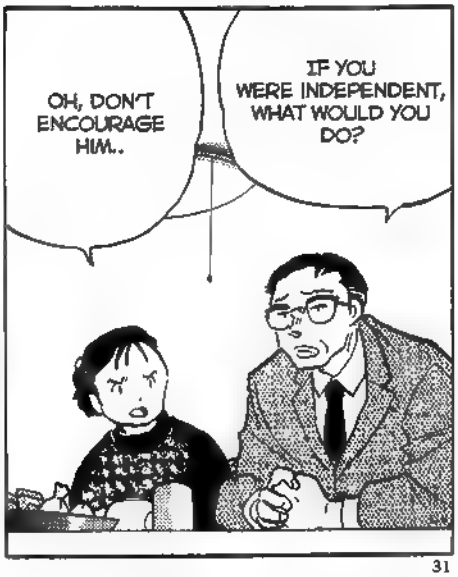

HE BEGGED HIS CLUB SENPAI TO WORK THERE JUST FOR A WEEK, DESPITE BEING UNDERAGED.
AS FOR WHY HE ENDED UP WORKING IN THE PLEASURE DISTRICTS...


BEING INDEPENDENT SEEMED PRETTY GOOD.
I WATCHED MY SENPAI ...

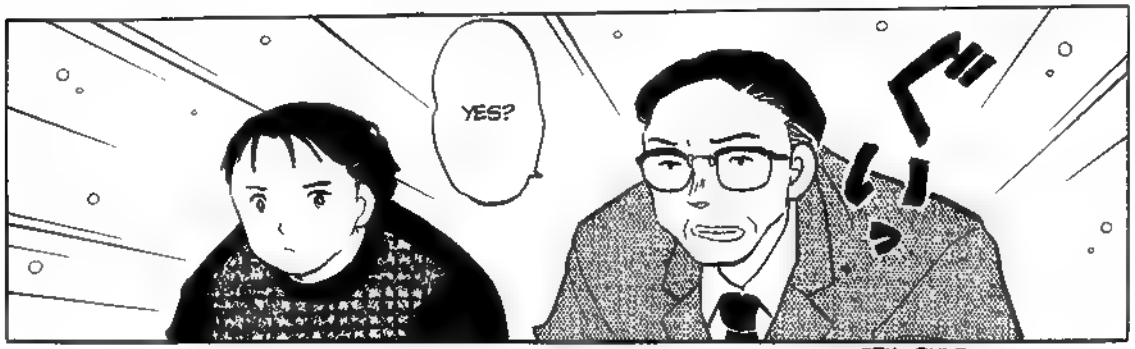

AND WORKS AT THE CLUB.
HE QUIT SCHOOL ...
SO THIS CLUB SENPAI...

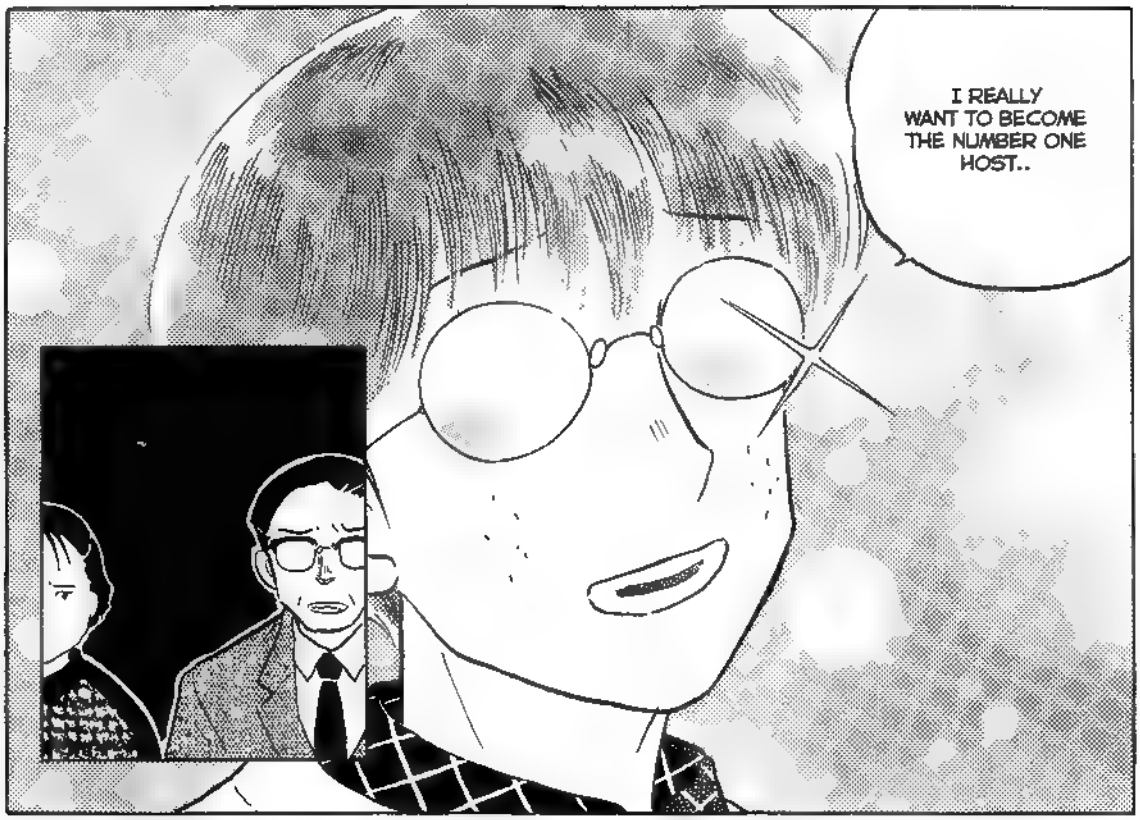
YOU'D PROBABLY LAUGH AT THIS, BUT...

...
OH, IT'S FINE.


OH, DON'T ENCOURAGE HIM..
IF YOU WERE INDEPENDENT, WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

31


YES?
SFX: GULP

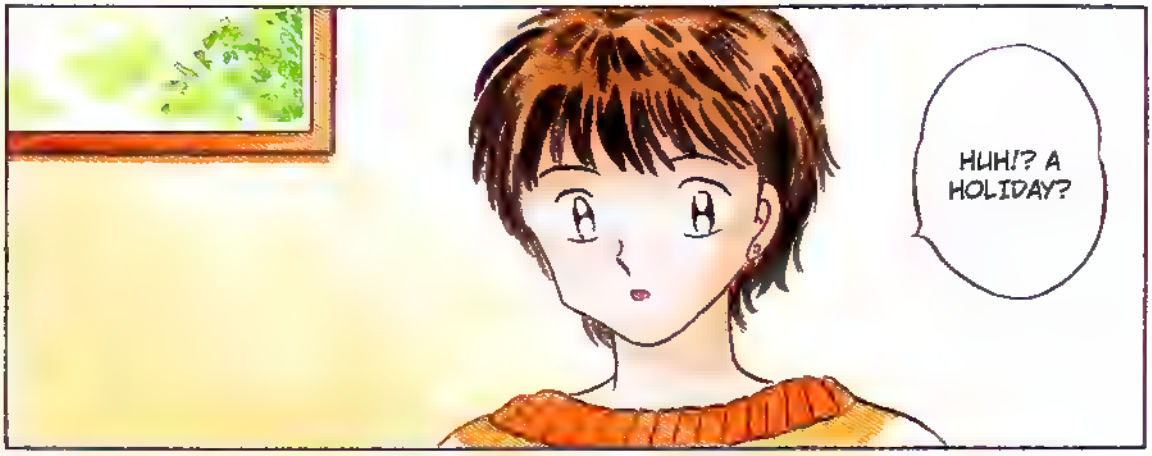

I REALLY WANT TO BECOME THE NUMBER ONE HOST..

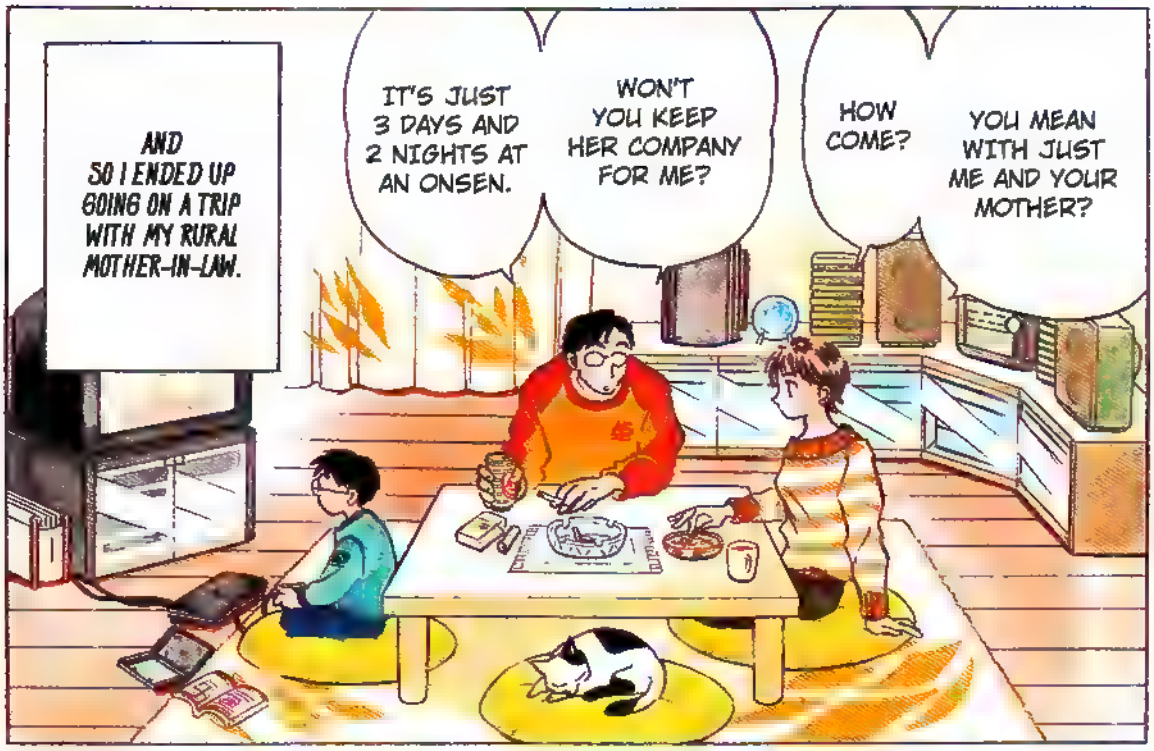
32

HE GOT THE FULL SERMON ALL NIGHT
JUST STOP RIGHT THERE.

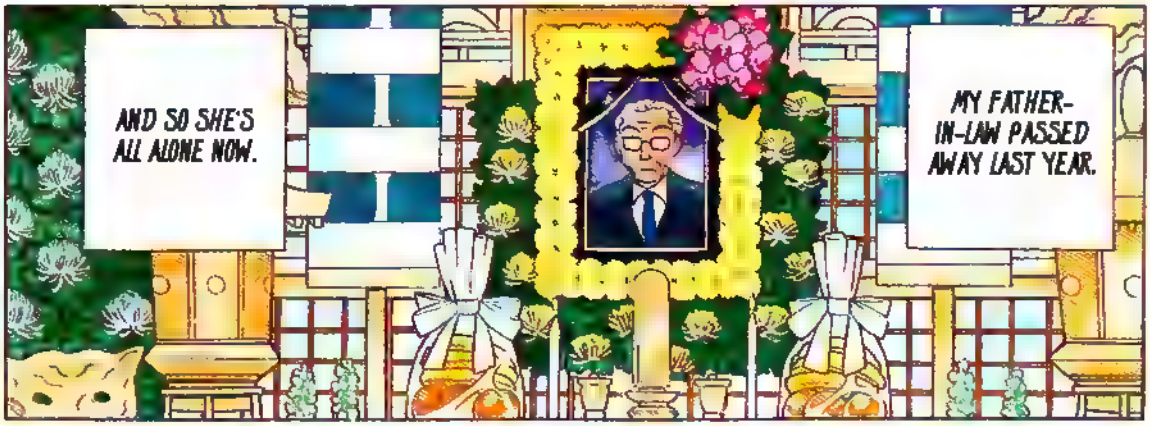
BUT JUST OVER THE GRAFFITI, THOUGH...
INCIDENTALLY, SOMEONE PAINTED MY WALLS WHITE.

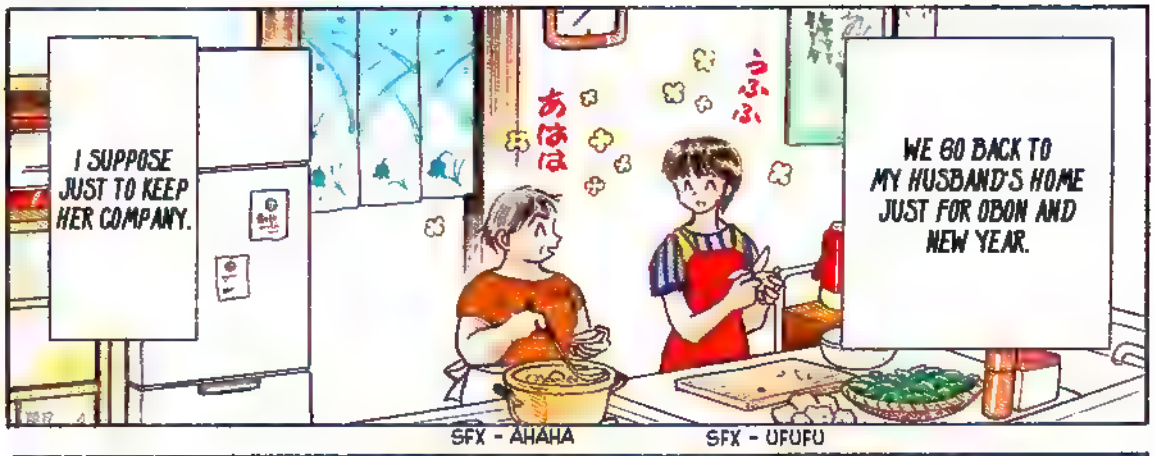
DUTIFUL VACATION


HUH!? A HOLIDAY?

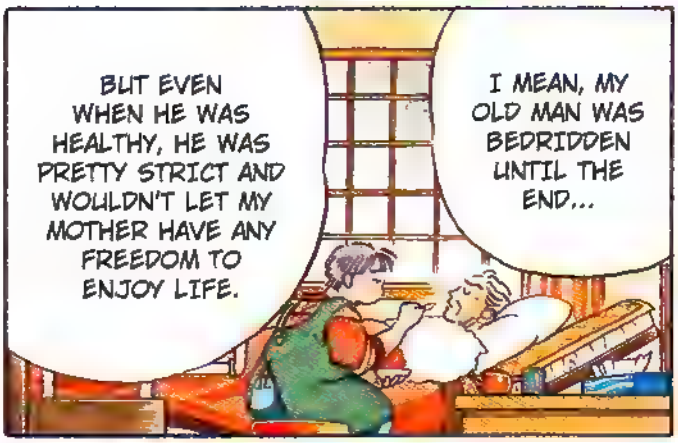

AND SO I ENDED UP GOING ON A TRIP WITH MY RURAL MOTHER-IN-LAW.
IT'S JUST 3 DAYS AND 2 NIGHTS AT AN ONSEN.
WON'T YOU KEEP HER COMPANY FOR ME?
HOW COME?
YOU MEAN WITH JUST ME AND YOUR MOTHER?

2


AND SO SHE'S ALL ALONE NOW.
MY FATHER-IN-LAW PASSED AWAY LAST YEAR.


I SUPPOSE JUST TO KEEP HER COMPANY.
あはは
うふふ
WE GO BACK TO MY HUSBAND'S HOME JUST FOR OBON AND NEW YEAR.
SFX - AHAHA
SFX - UFUFU

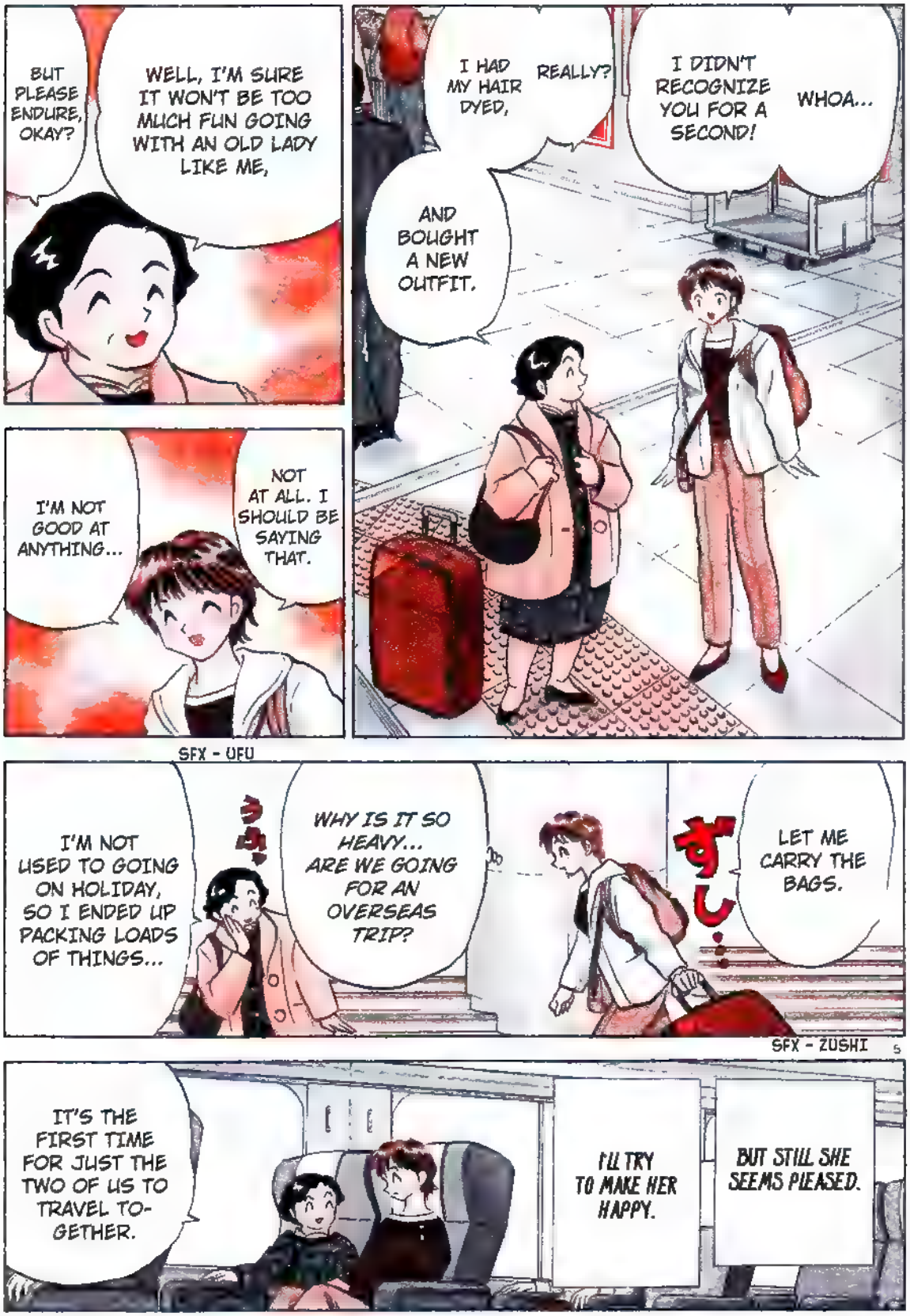
WELL, IT SEEMS SHE HAD SOMEONE TO GO WITH, BUT THE FRIEND SUDDENLY CANCELED.
IS IT FINE WITH JUST ME?

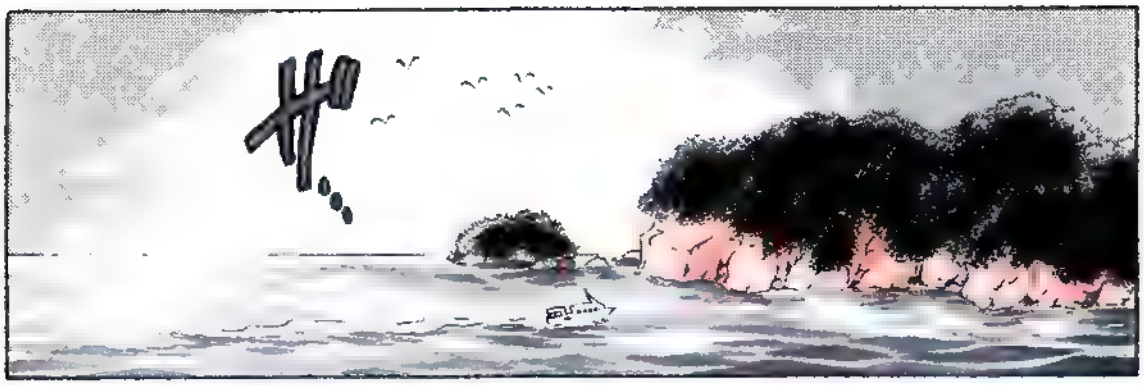

BUT EVEN WHEN HE WAS HEALTHY, HE WAS PRETTY STRICT AND WOULDN'T LET MY MOTHER HAVE ANY FREEDOM TO ENJOY LIFE.
I MEAN, MY OLD MAN WAS BEDRIDDEN UNTIL THE END...

I THINK MY MOTHER WAS REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS HOLIDAY.

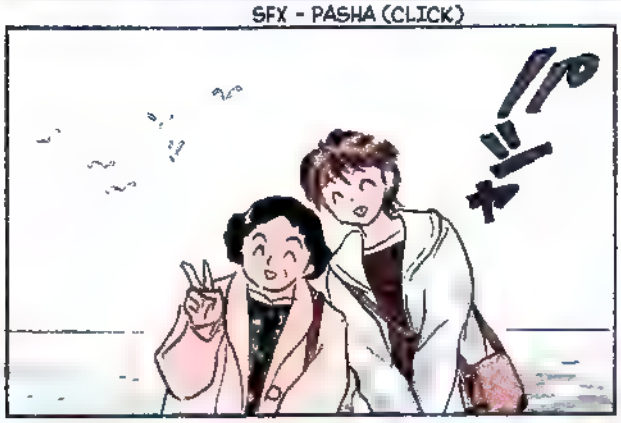
NOT ONLY THAT ...
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, I NEVER SAW HER WEAR MAKEUP EITHER...
I SEE...

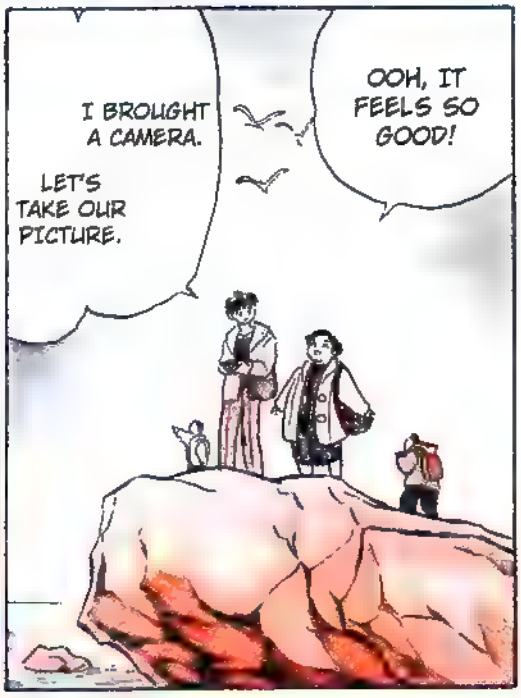
SO IF YOU GIVE HER A REALLY GOOD VACATION, SHE'LL BE IN SUCH A GOOD MOOD AFTER THAT MAYBE I'LL BE ABLE TO BORROW SOME MONEY...
YOU REALLY ARE THE WORST.
BUT BECAUSE OF THIS LONG RECESSION, IT'S BEEN HARD TO MAKE PAYMENTS FOR STUFF LIKE THE HOUSE LOAN.
SFX - FU (SIGH)
4
WELL, THANKS FOR COMING TO KEEP ME COMPANY
AH, NAMIKO-SAN.
TOKYO STATION

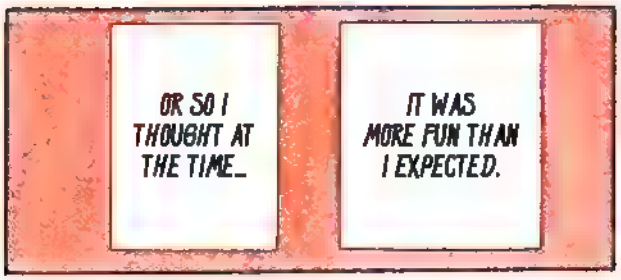

BUT PLEASE ENDURE, OKAY?
WELL, I'M SURE IT WON'T BE TOO MUCH FUN GOING WITH AN OLD LADY LIKE ME,
I'M NOT GOOD AT ANYTHING...
NOT AT ALL. I SHOULD BE SAYING THAT.
I HAD MY HAIR DYED,
REALLY?
I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU FOR A SECOND!
WHOA...
AND BOUGHT A NEW OUTFIT.
SFX - UFU
I'M NOT USED TO GOING ON HOLIDAY, SO I ENDED UP PACKING LOADS OF THINGS...
うぅ
WHY IS IT SO HEAVY... ARE WE GOING FOR AN OVERSEAS TRIP?
ずし
LET ME CARRY THE BAGS.
SFX - ZUSHI
IT'S THE FIRST TIME FOR JUST THE TWO OF US TO TRAVEL TO-GETHER.
I'LL TRY TO MAKE HER HAPPY.
BUT STILL SHE SEEMS PLEASED.



SFX - PASHA (CLICK)



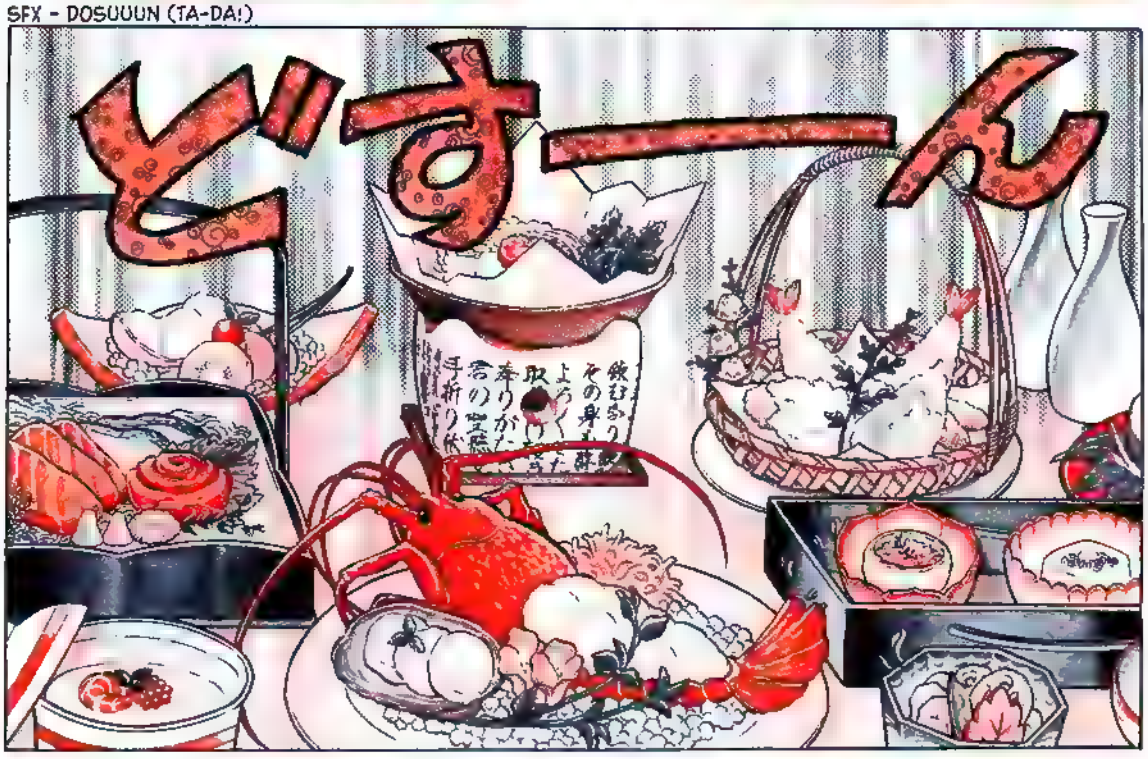




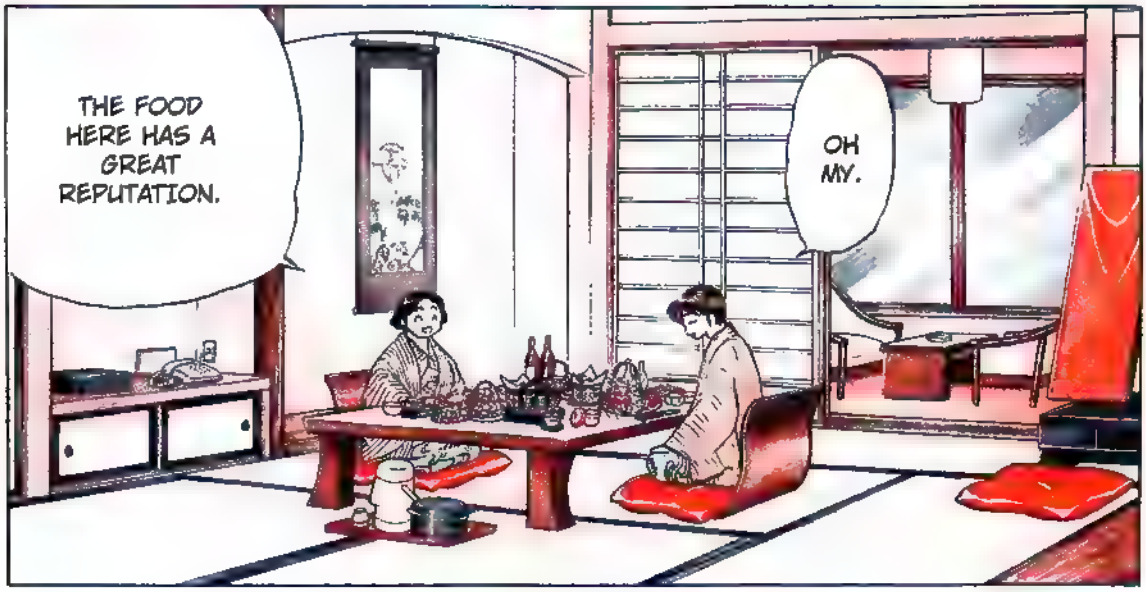
6

(SIGN) AMAZAKE

SFX - DOSUUUN (TA-DA!)



7

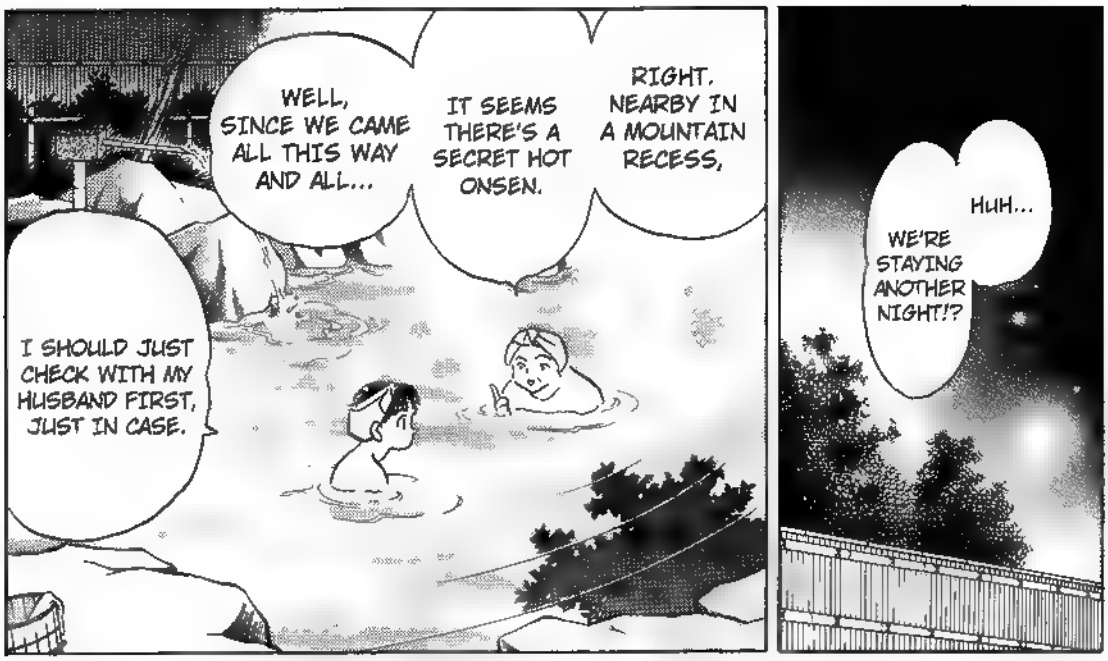


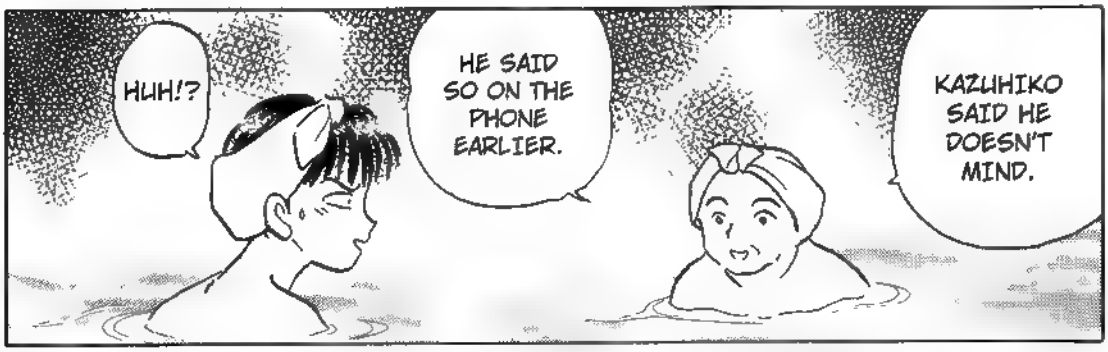
DON'T HOLD BACK, THIS IS MY TREAT.
BE SURE TO EAT LOADS.
ぱくぱく
SO THEN WHY DID YOU GIVE ME LOADS OF MANJU AND DANGO...?
I NEVER KNEW SHE WAS SUCH A GLUTTON...
NAMIKO-SAN ATE TOO MUCH AND COLLAPSED.
IT WAS MAGNIFI-CENT.
ぐーぐー
OH, KAZUHIKO?
YEAH, WE JUST FINISHED EATING.
8
SFX - UUUUUN UUUUN (UGGGGH...)
CAN'T YOU JUST POLITELY SAY NO?
WHAT ARE YOU PLAYING AT?
SURE...
SHALL I PASS TO YOU, NAMIKO-SAN?
THAT'S ONLY BECAUSE YOU MADE ME...

I SEE...
SO IF IT'S JUST THE TWO OF US, THEN...
THIS IS REALLY NICE, TOO...
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT. EVERY TIME WE WOULD VISIT...
BUT WAS SHE ALWAYS THIS WAY?
WHAT ABOUT YOU, NAMIKO-SAN?
I'M JUST OFF TO THE ONSEN AGAIN.
SHE'S GOING TO FOCUS ALL HER ATTENTION ON ME!
IT'S A BIT OF A WASTE, SEEING AS WE CAME SO FAR TO THE ONSEN.
OH?
ACTUALLY, I'M STILL FEELING A LITTLE...
SFX - PATAN
SIGH...

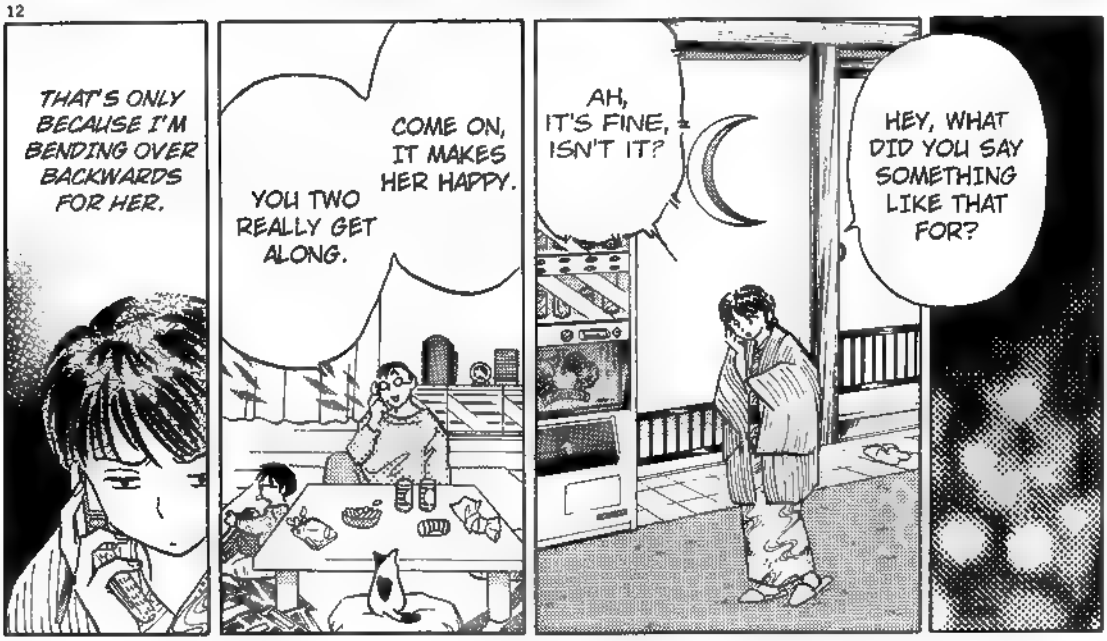
EH!? WE'RE GOING THERE BY TAXI!?
WELL, SINCE YOU FELT PRETTY BAD LAST NIGHT.
THE 2ND DAY...
HURRY, NAMIKO-SAN.
HUH!?
BUT NOW I'M FEELING...
NO, NO, NO.
THIS IS COMING OUT OF MY MONEY.
10
OH...
SOMETHING EXTRAVAG-ANT LIKE THIS.
I JUST WANTED TO DO IT ONCE.
IS THIS OKAY?
IT FEELS TOO LUXURIOUS.
SIGH.

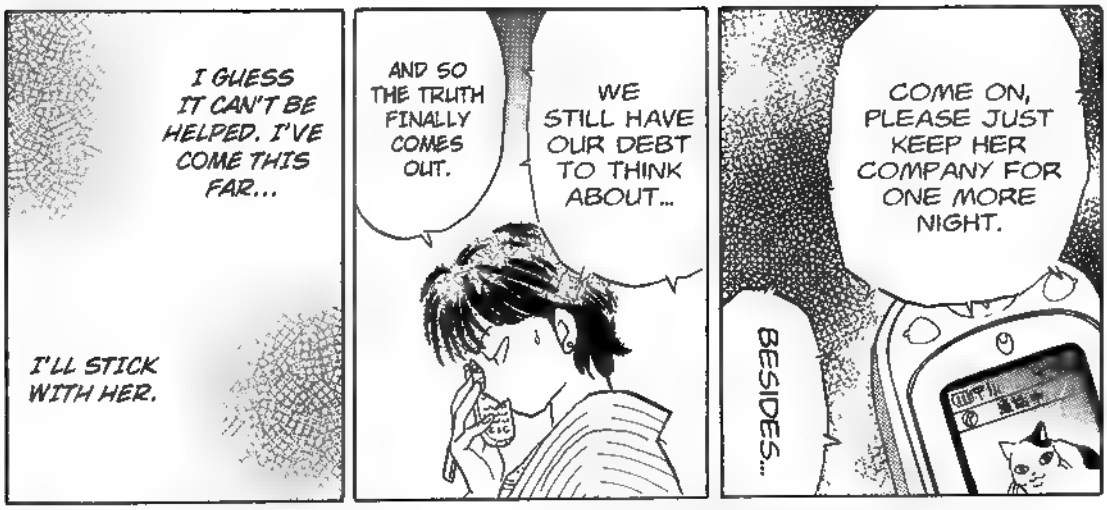
THAT'S SOMETHING THAT I'VE ALWAYS KEPT WITH ME.
WASTING MONEY WAS SOMETHING THAT MADE MY FATHER MAD.
THAT MUST BE WHY SHE WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS TRIP SO MUCH...
I SHOULD TRY TO ENJOY MYSELF A LITTLE MORE.
I SEE...
SHE MUST HAVE ENDURED A LOT IN HER LIFE.
SO I'M PRETTY GRATEFUL, AHAHA.
BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, HE LEFT ME A HUGE INHERITANCE.
HOHO HO.
11
SFX - PASHA PASHA (SNAP SNAP)


WELL, SINCE WE CAME ALL THIS WAY AND ALL...
IT SEEMS THERE'S A SECRET HOT ONSEN.
RIGHT. NEARBY IN A MOUNTAIN RECESS,
I SHOULD JUST CHECK WITH MY HUSBAND FIRST, JUST IN CASE.
HUH... WE'RE STAYING ANOTHER NIGHT!?


HUH!?
HE SAID SO ON THE PHONE EARLIER.
KAZUHIKO SAID HE DOESN'T MIND.

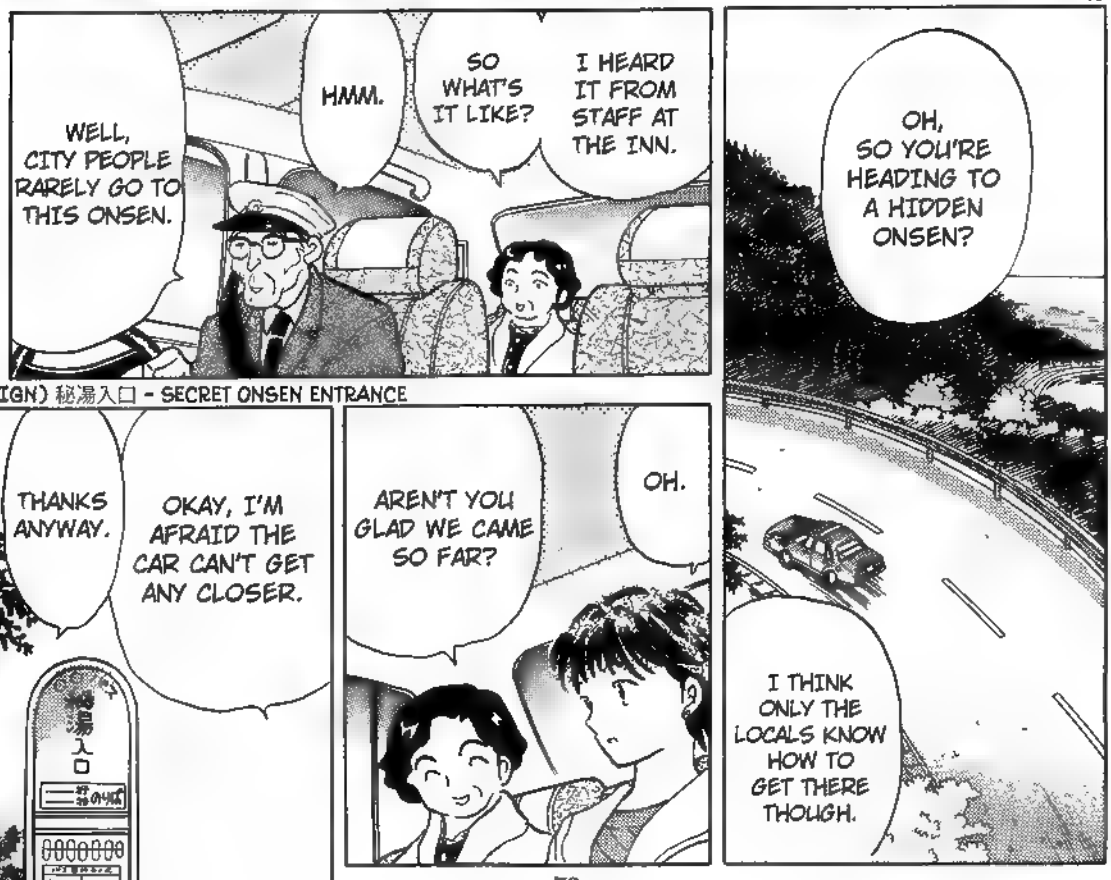
12


THAT'S ONLY BECAUSE I'M BENDING OVER BACKWARDS FOR HER.
YOU TWO REALLY GET ALONG.
COME ON, IT MAKES HER HAPPY.
AH, IT'S FINE, ISN'T IT?
HEY, WHAT DID YOU SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT FOR?


I GUESS IT CAN'T BE HELPED. I'VE COME THIS FAR...
I'LL STICK WITH HER.
AND SO THE TRUTH FINALLY COMES OUT.
WE STILL HAVE OUR DEBT TO THINK ABOUT...
COME ON, PLEASE JUST KEEP HER COMPANY FOR ONE MORE NIGHT.
BESIDES...

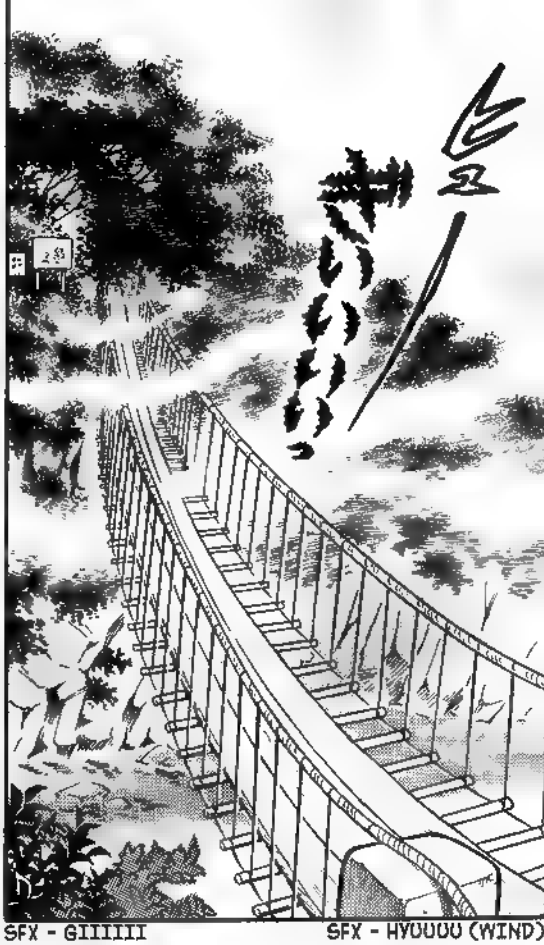
WE SHOULDN'T HAVE GONE.
BUT

13


WELL, CITY PEOPLE RARELY GO TO THIS ONSEN.
HMM.
SO WHAT'S IT LIKE?
I HEARD IT FROM STAFF AT THE INN.
OH, SO YOU'RE HEADING TO A HIDDEN ONSEN?
I THINK ONLY THE LOCALS KNOW HOW TO GET THERE THOUGH.
(BUS SIGN) 秘湯入口 - SECRET ONSEN ENTRANCE
THANKS ANYWAY.
OKAY, I'M AFRAID THE CAR CAN'T GET ANY CLOSER.
AREN'T YOU GLAD WE CAME SO FAR?
OH.

INN THIS WAY
2KM BY FOOT
BEWARE FALLING STONES
A 2KM WALK UNTIL THE INN...

.....
UMM... ARE WE REALLY GOING TO GO THERE?

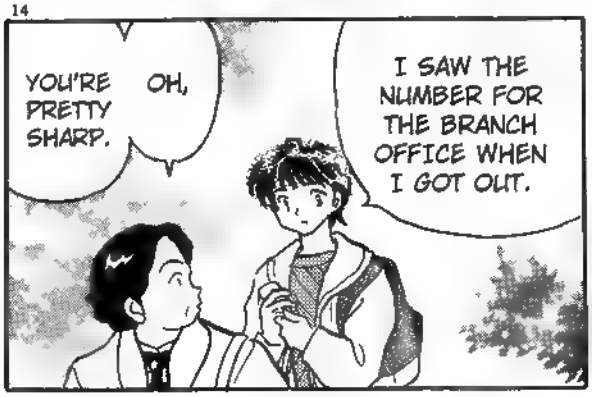

SFX - GIIIIII
SFX - HYUUUU (WIND)

.....
.....

.....
WELL, IF YOU REALLY WANT TO GO...

...WE CAN GIVE UP IF YOU REALLY DON'T WANT TO.

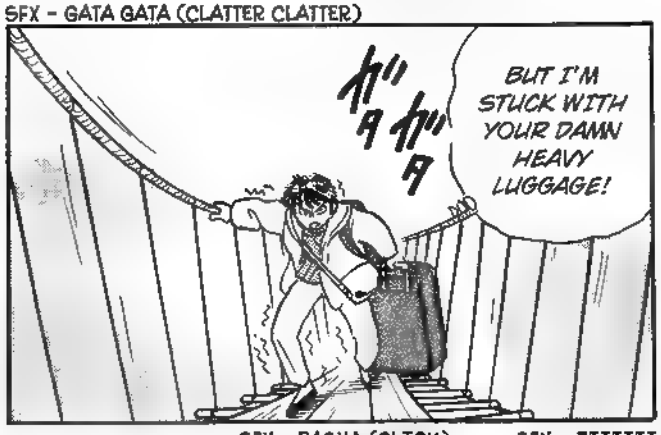
14

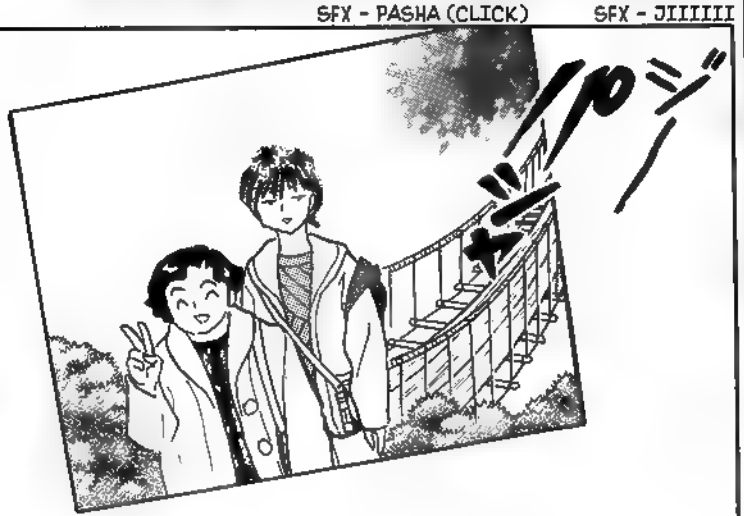

YOU'RE PRETTY SHARP.
OH,
I SAW THE NUMBER FOR THE BRANCH OFFICE WHEN I GOT OUT.

YOU CAN CALL IT!?
SHOULD I CALL THE TAXI BACK?

WHAT WAS THAT!? JUST THEN...
HUH!?
SIGH.
WELL, I GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO GO FOR IT.
SFX - HAA (SIGH...)
はぁ
I'VE NO RECEPT-ION...
.....

SFX - GI (CREAK)
AWAWA.
AWAWA.
SHE WAS DEFINITELY THE ONE WHO ASKED ME TO COME, RIGHT?


SFX - GATA GATA (CLATTER CLATTER)
BUT I'M STUCK WITH YOUR DAMN HEAVY LUGGAGE!


SFX - PASHA (CLICK)
SFX - JIIIIII

15
TRY CROSSING, IT'S NOT SCARY YOU KNOW!
NAMIKO-SAN, WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?
SFX - GI GI (CREAK CREAK)

SFX - GATTA GATTA (CLATTER CLATTER)

OH!

HOLD UP...I'M EXHAUSTED.

DON'T GIVE UP. WE'LL BE THERE SOON.

HUFF.

HUFF.

かったかったかった

(SIGN) INN // 10M AHEAD.

旅館 この先 10m

LOOK, THE INN.

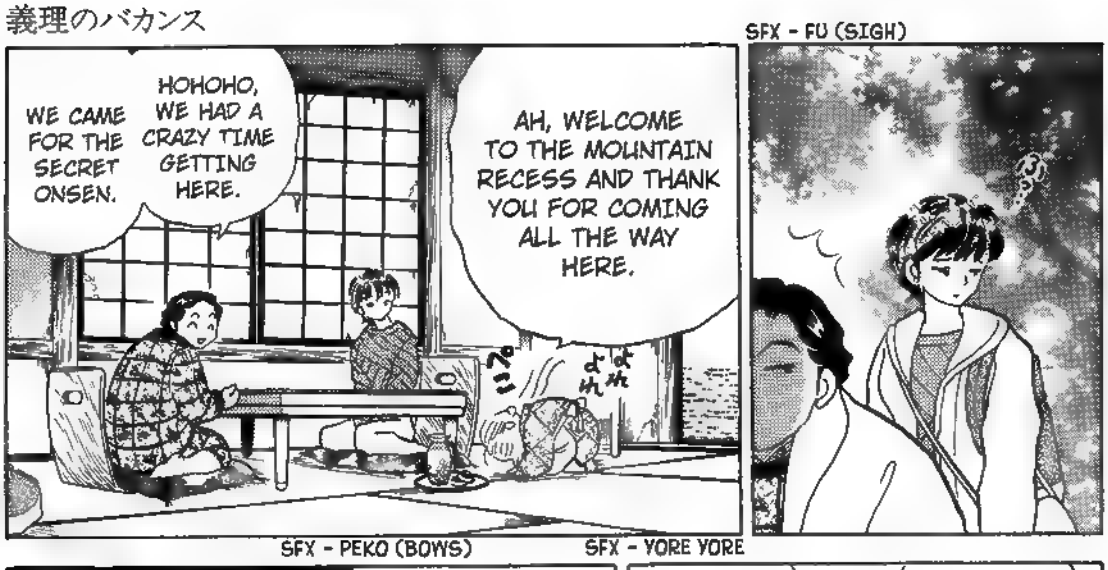
16

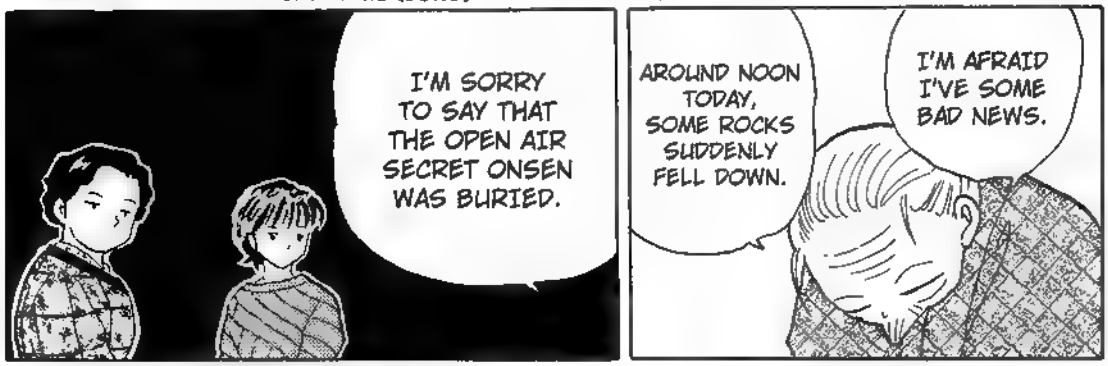
バタタタ

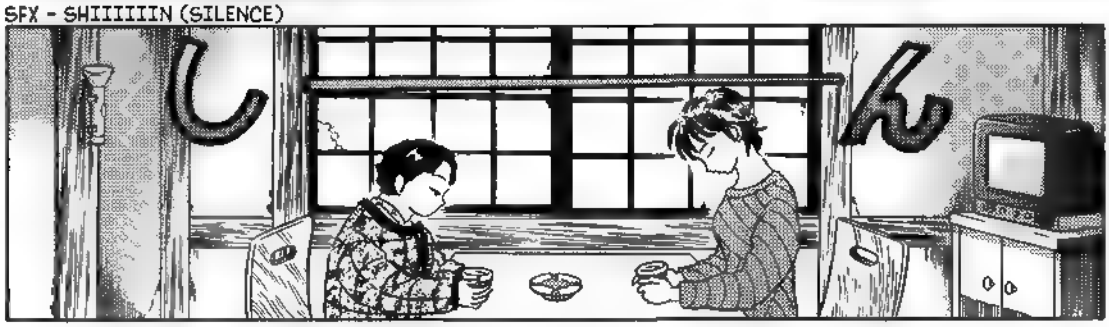
ガヤガヤ

秘湯の宿 ニューライフ TEL [illegible]

(SIGN) SECRET ONSEN INN: NEW LIFE


WE CAME FOR THE SECRET ONSEN.
HOHOHO, WE HAD A CRAZY TIME GETTING HERE.
AH, WELCOME TO THE MOUNTAIN RECESS AND THANK YOU FOR COMING ALL THE WAY HERE.
SFX - PEKO (BOWS)
SFX - YORE YORE
SFX - FU (SIGH)


I'M SORRY TO SAY THAT THE OPEN AIR SECRET ONSEN WAS BURIED.
AROUND NOON TODAY, SOME ROCKS SUDDENLY FELL DOWN.
I'M AFRAID I'VE SOME BAD NEWS.


SFX - SHIIIIIIN (SILENCE)

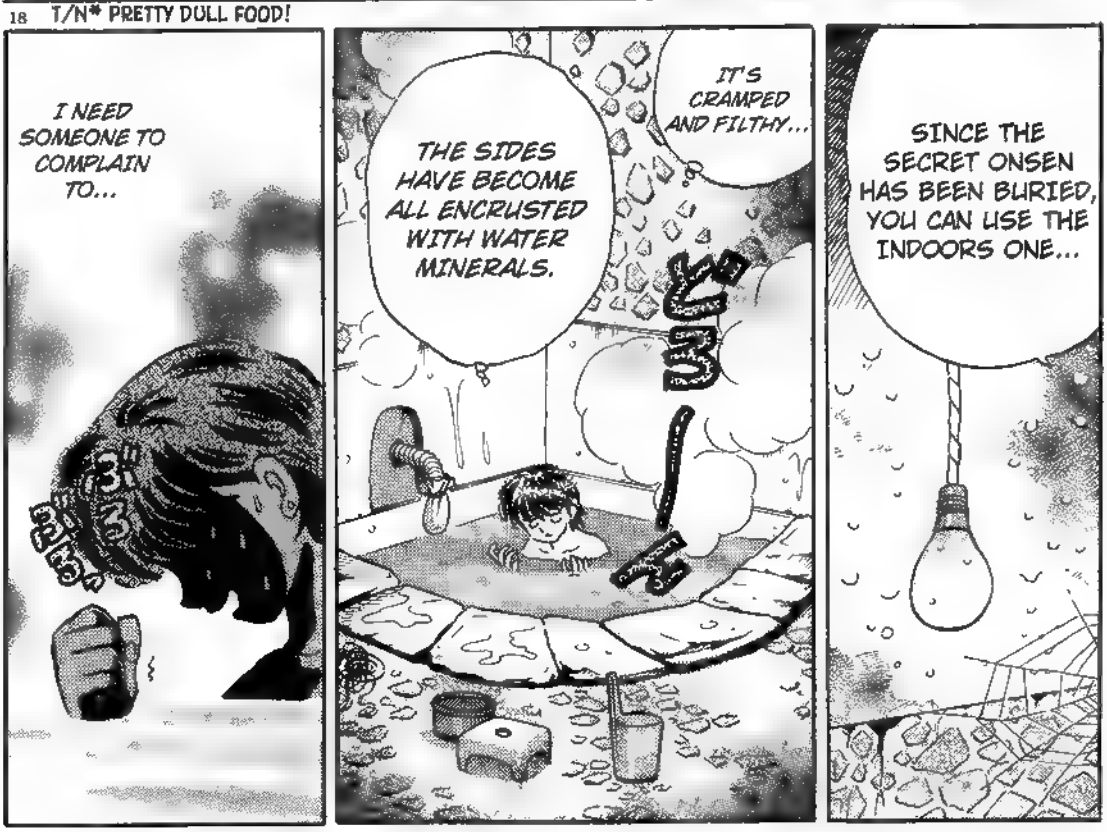
17

TAKING YOUR FRUSTRAIONS OUT ON ME, HUH?
WE'VE WALKED ENOUGH.
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
....WELL, HOW ABOUT A STROLL?

TARANOME IS GREAT FOR TEMPURA...
THAT'S RIGHT.
ぽあぁっ
MANY WILD VEG-ETABLES ARE RIPE...
BUT IN THIS SEASON,
I WOULDN'T EXPECT SUCH GREAT FOOD FROM THIS KIND OF INN.
I'M PRETTY HUNGRY...

SFX - PAAA

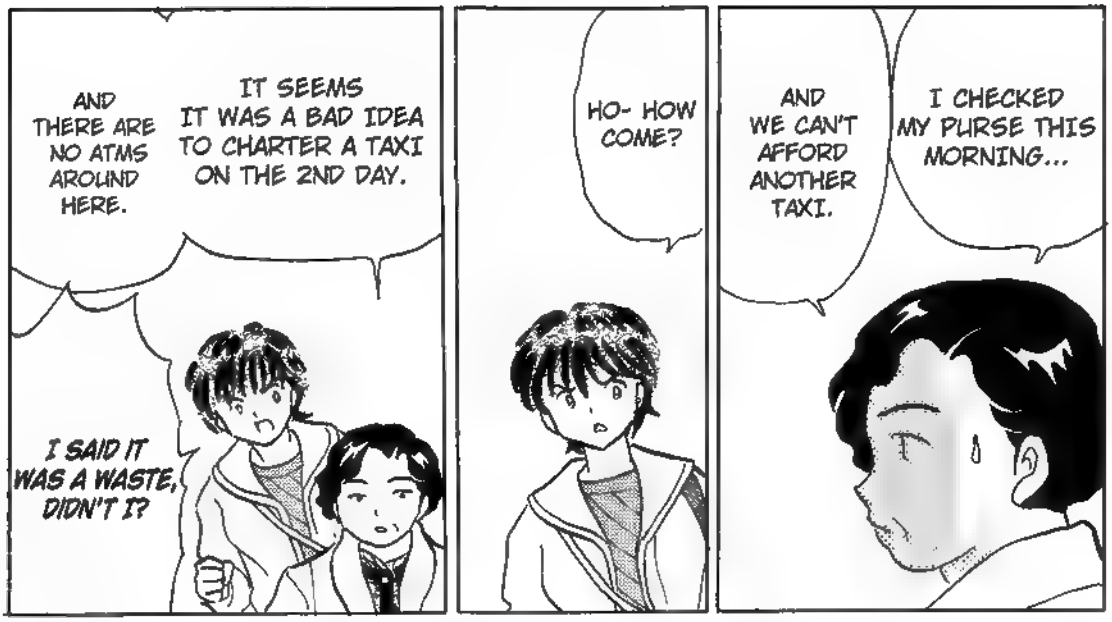
18 T/N* PRETTY DULL FOOD!


I NEED SOMEONE TO COMPLAIN TO...
THE SIDES HAVE BECOME ALL ENCRUSTED WITH WATER MINERALS.
IT'S CRAMPED AND FILTHY...
SINCE THE SECRET ONSEN HAS BEEN BURIED, YOU CAN USE THE INDOORS ONE...

SFX - HAA (SIGH)
TELEPHONE AT RECEPTION.
I FORGOT... NO SIGNAL.
はぁ
RIGHT, THIS IS MY CHANCE.
HUH? MY MOTHER-IN-LAW'S NOT AROUND.
IT'S BEEN AWFUL.
IT'S HER.
CHARIN (CLINK)
AS WE ORIGINALLY PLANNED.
I WISH YOU COULD HAVE COME INSTEAD,
(火の用心) FIRE SAFETY!
19
HUH?
I'M SURE I'LL HAVE SOME FUNNY STORIES TO TELL ABOUT THIS INN LATER...
BUT I GUESS THAT DEPENDS ON MY TRAVELING PARTNER.
IT'S THE FRIEND WHO CANCELLED.
潮風
もおいしい!
(POSTER) SEA BREEZE // SMELLS GOOD!

SPENDING LOADS ON HER, TAKING CARE OF HER...
I'VE REALLY HAD ENOUGH.
WHAT!?
YOU'RE THE VICTIM HERE!?
20
JUST WHEN HAVE YOU TAKEN CARE OF ME?
すか
THE ONE WHO'S BEEN PERSEVERING IS ME!
むかむか

I'VE HAD IT! I WANT TO GO HOME!
HUFF.
HUFF.
HUFF.
GRRR.
WELL, LET'S GET MOVING.
THANKS FOR VISITING.
SFX - JIIII (STARES)
21
NO, IT'S FINE.
WOULDN'T IT HAVE BEEN BETTER TO ORDER A TAXI AT THE INN?
THE NEXT BUS DOESN'T COME FOR ANOTHER 2 HOURS?
WHAT'S THIS...
EH?
HUH?
WE'LL TAKE THE BUS BACK.
(BUS STOP) SECRET ONSEN ENTRANCE


AND THERE ARE NO ATMS AROUND HERE.
IT SEEMS IT WAS A BAD IDEA TO CHARTER A TAXI ON THE 2ND DAY.
I SAID IT WAS A WASTE, DIDN'T I?
HO- HOW COME?
AND WE CAN'T AFFORD ANOTHER TAXI.
I CHECKED MY PURSE THIS MORNING...

SFX - KACHIIIN

22

SFX - BURU BURU (SHAKING WITH ANGER)

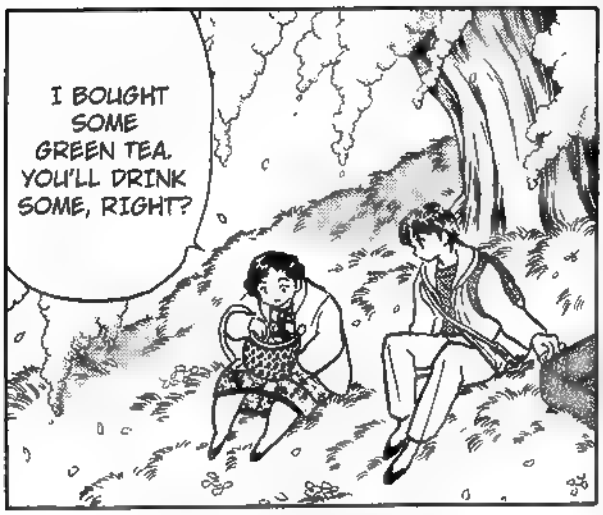
THAT'S ODD...
WH-WHERE ARE YOU HEADING TO?
THE OLD LADY AT THE INN DREW ME A MAP...
HUFF.
HUFF.
HUFF.
OKAY?
I'LL CARRY MY BAGS THIS TIME,
ガラ…
NOT ONLY THAT, BUT SOMEHOW I ENDED UP CARRYING HER BAGS AGAIN!
かたっ
WE'RE LOST, AREN'T WE!?

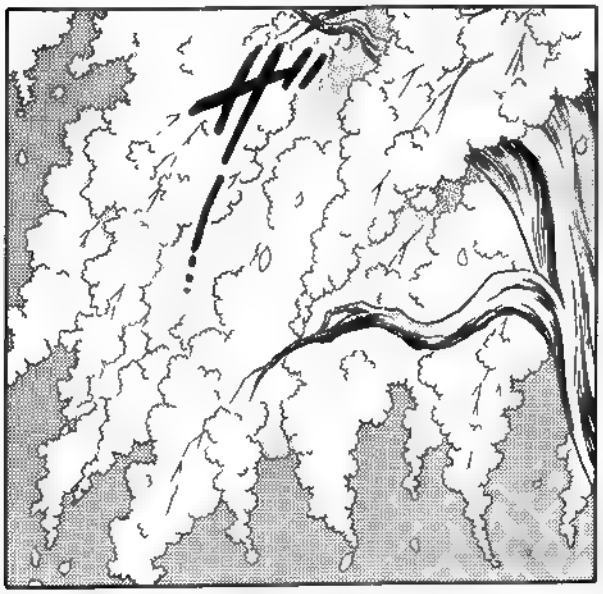
23

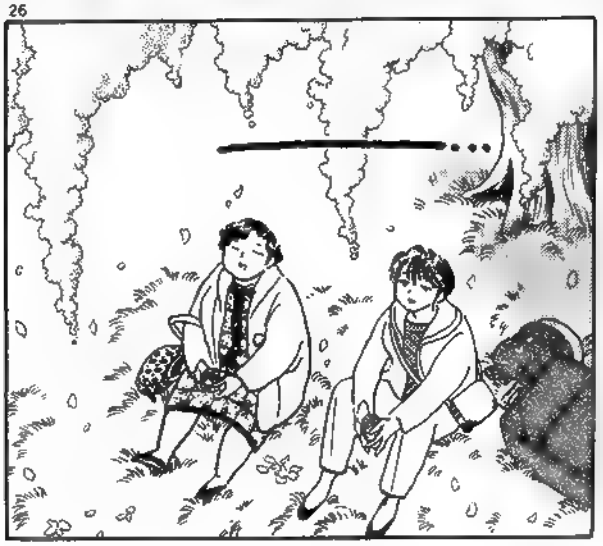
NAMIKO-SAN...
SEE?
THIS IS BEYOND A JOKE.
SHE'S GONE AND GOT US MAROONED IN SUCH A PLACE.

WOW...

SFX - ZAA

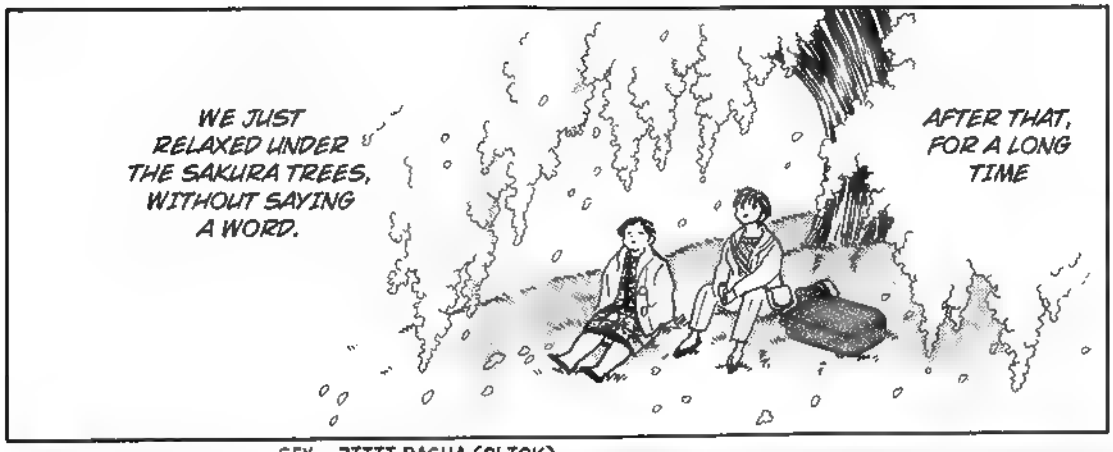




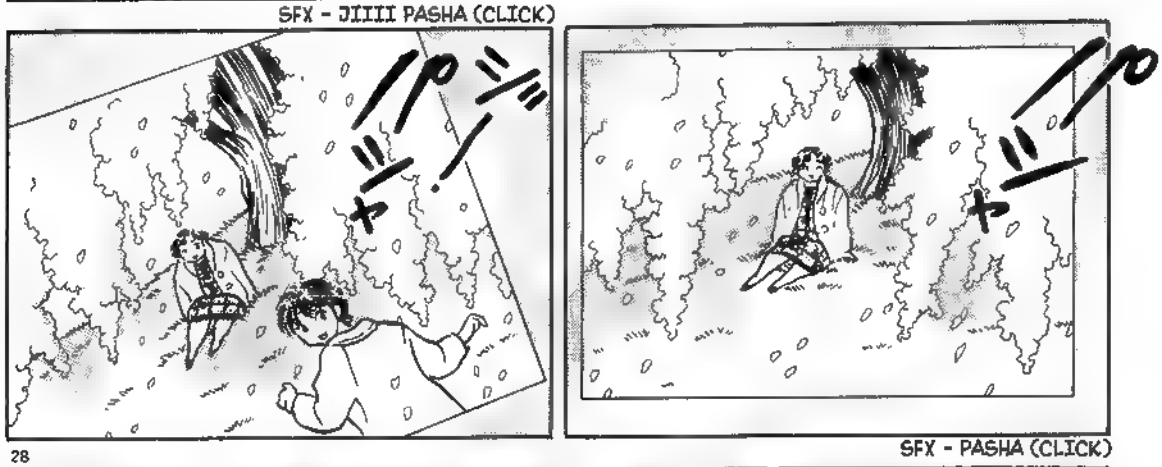


T/N* SHIDAREZAKURA ARE A RARER, VIBRANT PINK TYPE OF SAKURA TREE

ME TOO...
AHHHH...
I'M GLAD I CAME.
27



SFX - JIIII PASHA (CLICK)

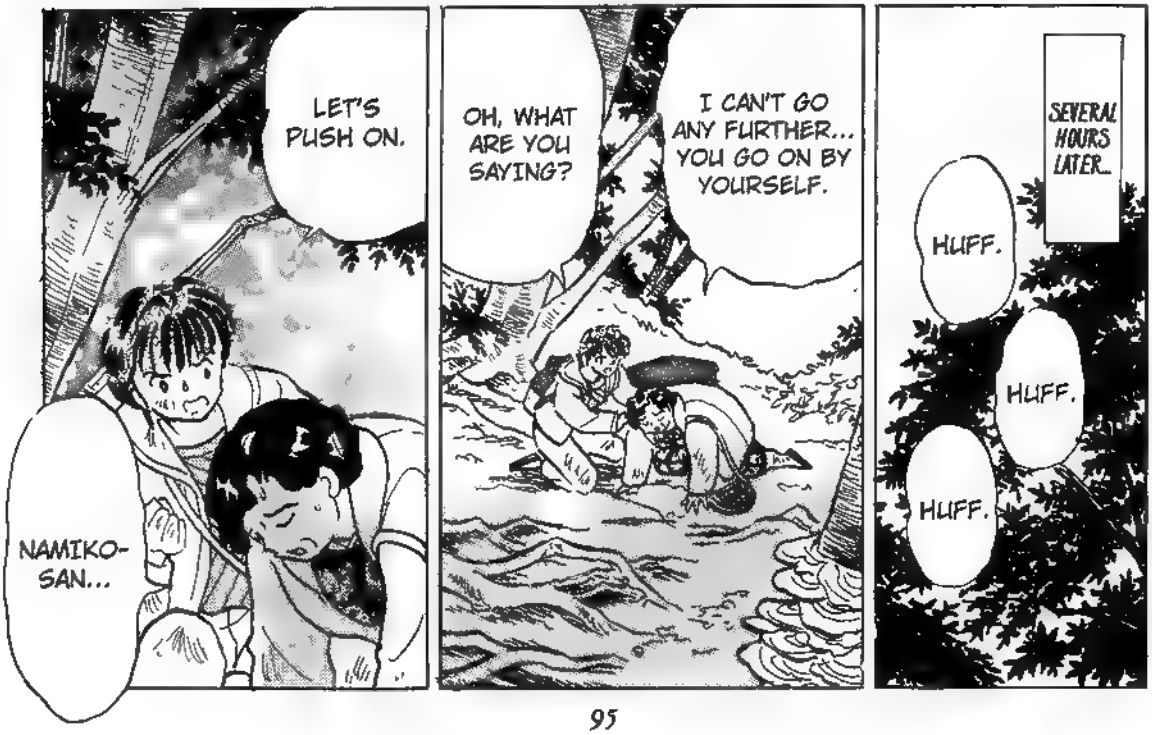


SFX - PASHA (CLICK)

28

WITH YOUR HEAVY SUITCASE?
RATHER, COULDN'T YOU CLIMB A LITTLE FASTER?
IT'S FINE.
THAT'S STRANGE, I'M SURE THIS IS THE WAY WE CAME...
OH IT'S FINE, JUST LEAVE IT BEHIND.
NO, I WOULDN'T WANT TO GIVE YOU ANOTHER THING TO COMPLAIN ABOUT LATER.
WE'RE LOST AGAIN, AREN'T WE?

29

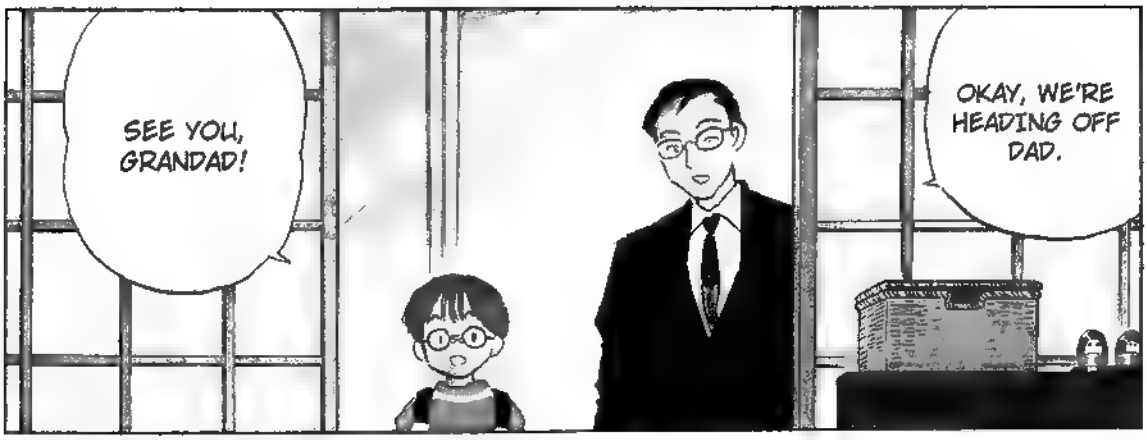

LET'S PUSH ON.
OH, WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
I CAN'T GO ANY FURTHER... YOU GO ON BY YOURSELF.
SEVERAL HOURS LATER...
HUFF.
HUFF.
HUFF.
NAMIKO-SAN...

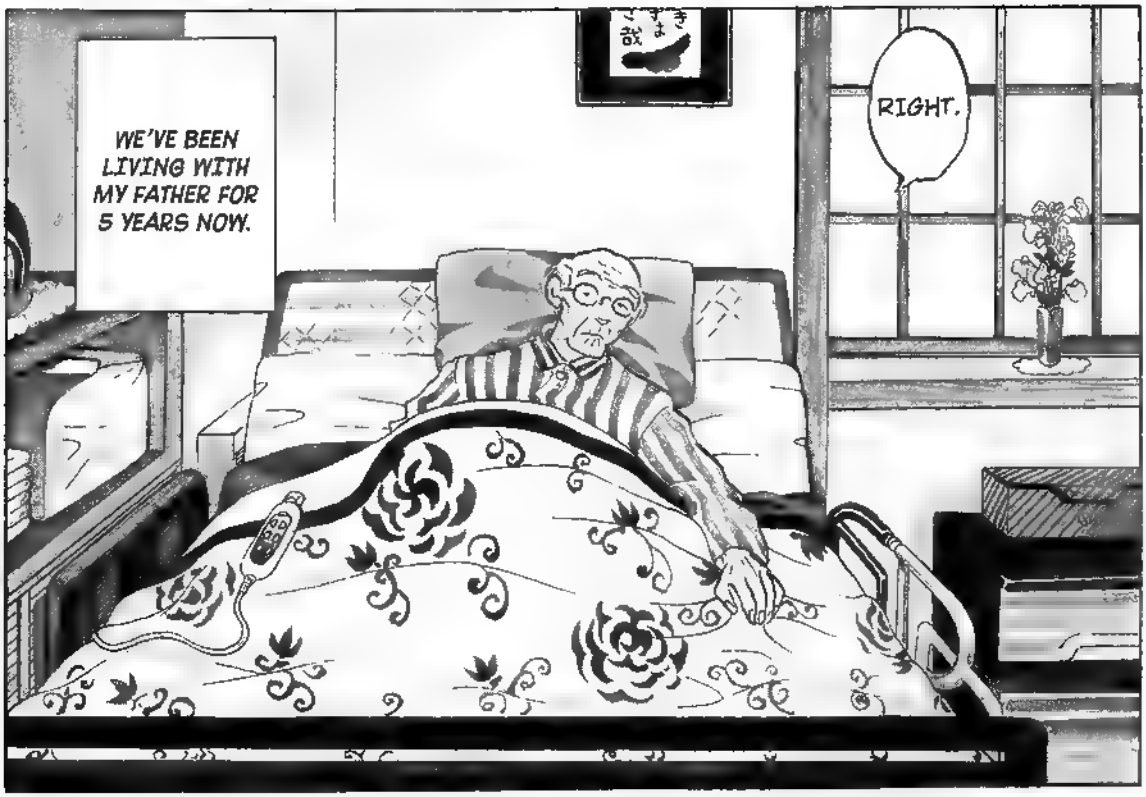
THANK YOU FOR KEEPING ME COMPANY...
BUT STILL... I REALLY ENJOYED MYSELF...
MOTHER...
I'M SORRY...
SORRY THINGS ENDED UP LIKE THIS ...
AND I COULD SEE SUCH BEAUTIFUL SAKURA.
I ATE ALL THAT DELICIOUS FOOD,
WELL, WHAT ABOUT ME...
30
NAMIKO-SAN, LOOK.
OH.
OF COURSE, THAT'S WHY...
REALLY ...?

OH!
COME ON, LET'S GO, NAMIKO-SAN!
SO QUICK ...
OH...
ISN'T THAT THE ROAD?
AND SO.
STOP!
THE BUS!
SFX - ZA
OUR TRIP ACTUALLY FINISHED.
OH, HI MOTHER.
HELLO, NAMIKO-SAN?

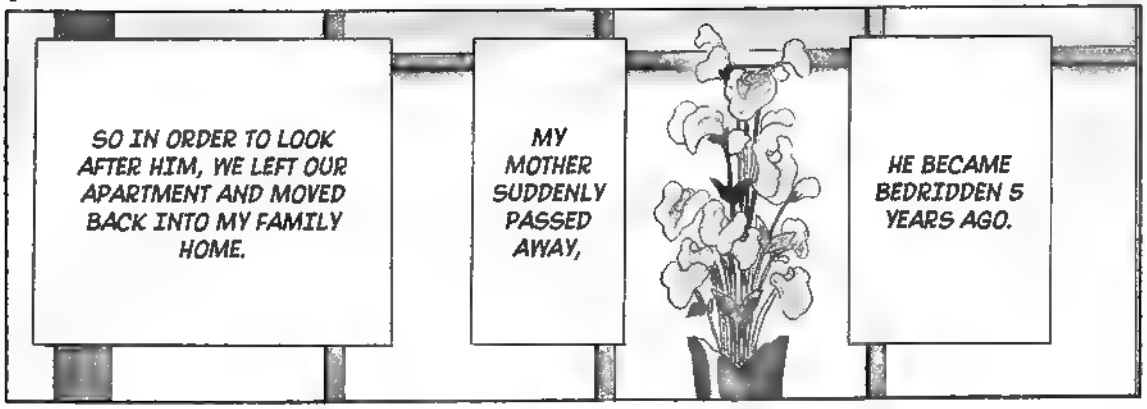
THERE MUST BE SOME BEAUTIFUL PICTURES IN THERE.
ALL THOSE SAKURA...
THE PHOTOS OF OUR TRIP ARRIVED TODAY.
MY FAVORITE IS THE ONE WE TOOK AT THE END, ON THE BUS.
YES, BUT STILL...
WE LOOK KIND OF LIKE COMRADES IN ARMS.
32
...I'LL THINK ABOUT IT.
LET'S GO SOMEWHERE TOGETHER AGAIN SOME-TIME!

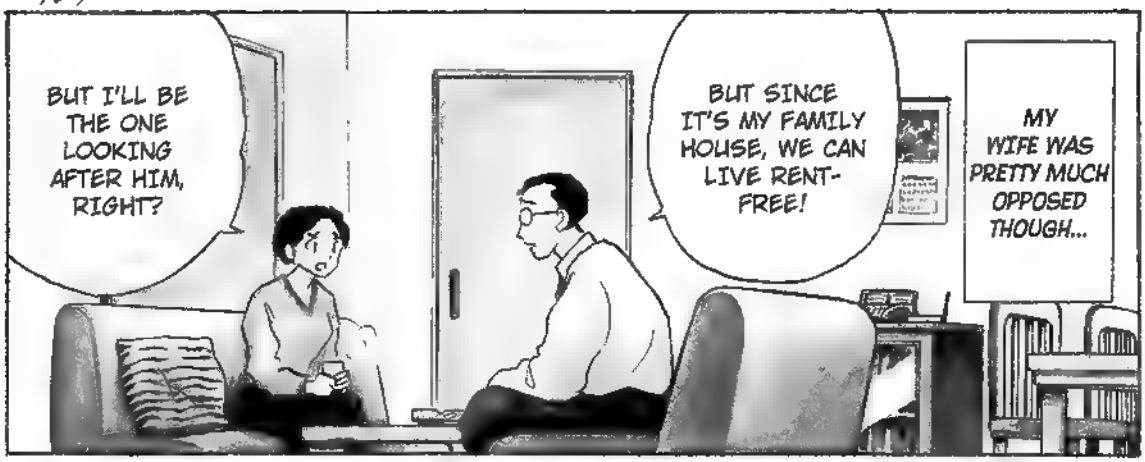
HELP

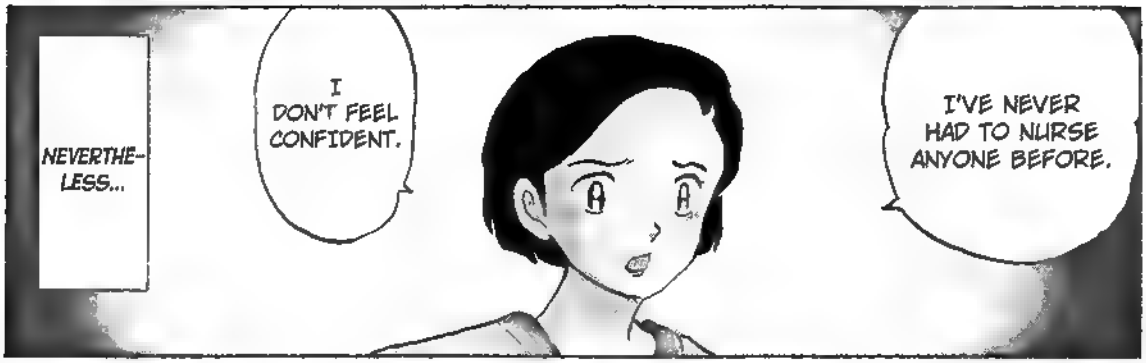

SEE YOU, GRANDAD!
OKAY, WE'RE HEADING OFF DAD.

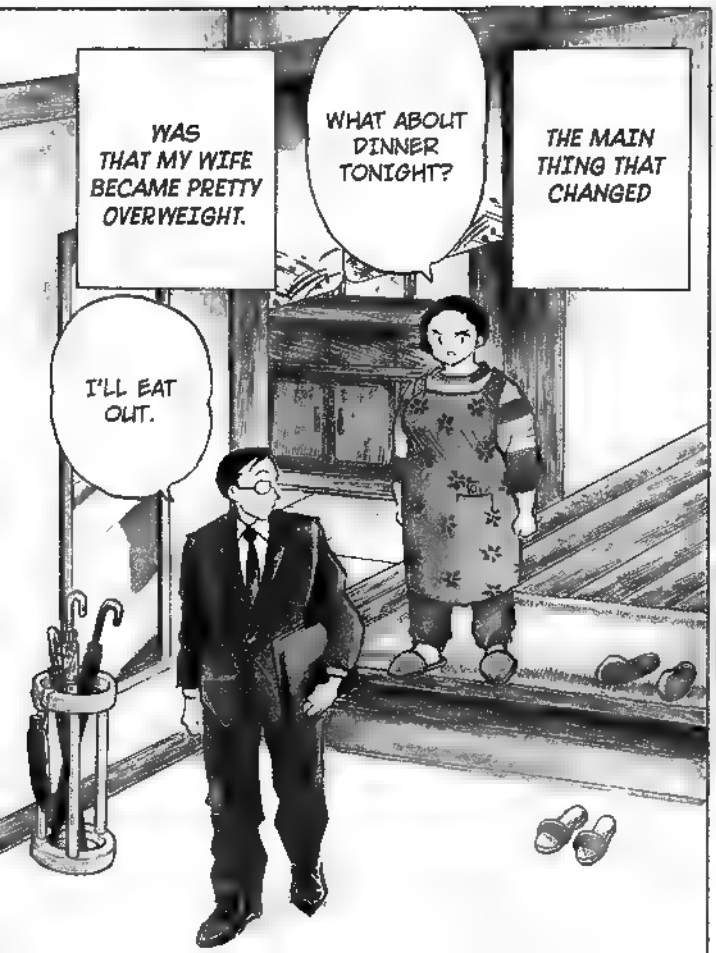

WE'VE BEEN LIVING WITH MY FATHER FOR 5 YEARS NOW.
RIGHT.

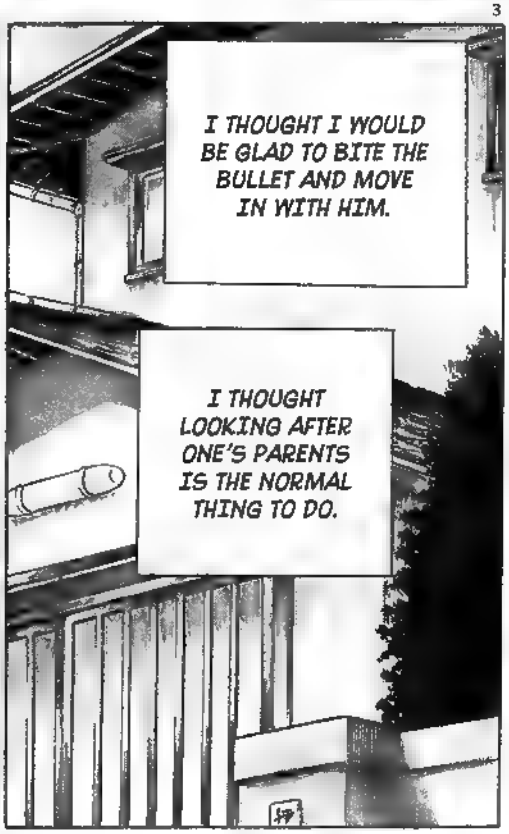
2


SO IN ORDER TO LOOK AFTER HIM, WE LEFT OUR APARTMENT AND MOVED BACK INTO MY FAMILY HOME.
MY MOTHER SUDDENLY PASSED AWAY,
HE BECAME BEDRIDDEN 5 YEARS AGO.


BUT I'LL BE THE ONE LOOKING AFTER HIM, RIGHT?
BUT SINCE IT'S MY FAMILY HOUSE, WE CAN LIVE RENT-FREE!
MY WIFE WAS PRETTY MUCH OPPOSED THOUGH...


NEVERTHE-LESS...
I DON'T FEEL CONFIDENT.
I'VE NEVER HAD TO NURSE ANYONE BEFORE.


WAS THAT MY WIFE BECAME PRETTY OVERWEIGHT.
WHAT ABOUT DINNER TONIGHT?
THE MAIN THING THAT CHANGED
I'LL EAT OUT.


I THOUGHT I WOULD BE GLAD TO BITE THE BULLET AND MOVE IN WITH HIM.
I THOUGHT LOOKING AFTER ONE'S PARENTS IS THE NORMAL THING TO DO.

SHE ALSO BECAME PRETTY CRANKY.

YEAH, YEAH, I'M COMING.

HEY, YASUKO-SAN?

SFX – DOSU DOSU

EVERYTHING IS PRETTY SMOOTH NOW.

タタン タタン

AT ANY RATE,

SFX – TATAN TATAN

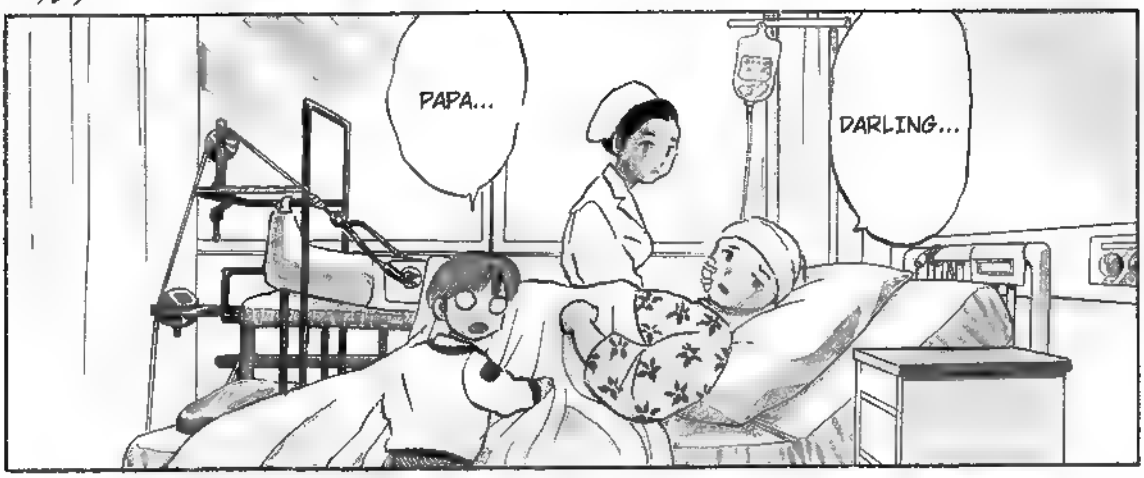
ON THAT DAY, IT SUDDENLY HAPPENED.

HOWEVER,

SIGN. TEACHING HOSPITAL

YASUKO!

学 病 院

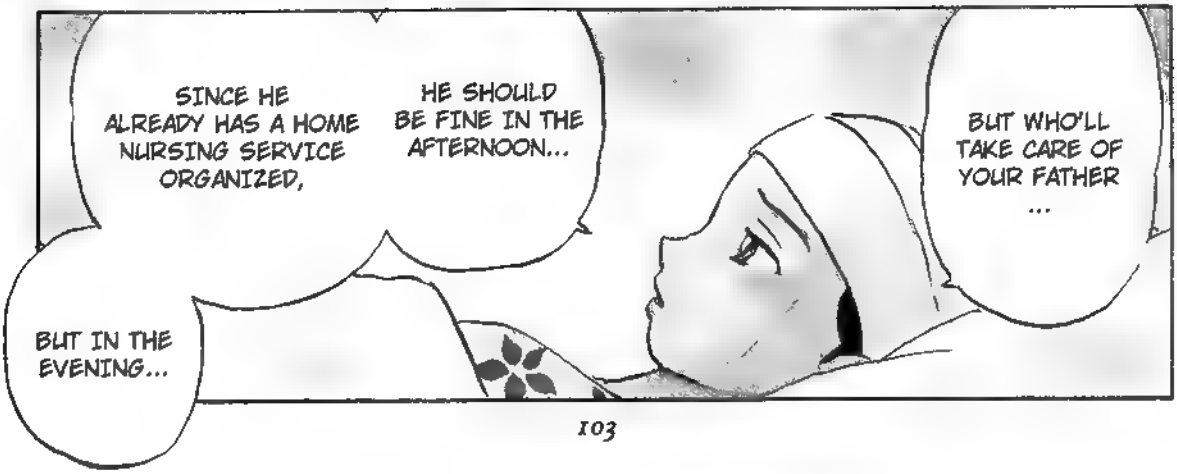

PAPA...
DARLING...

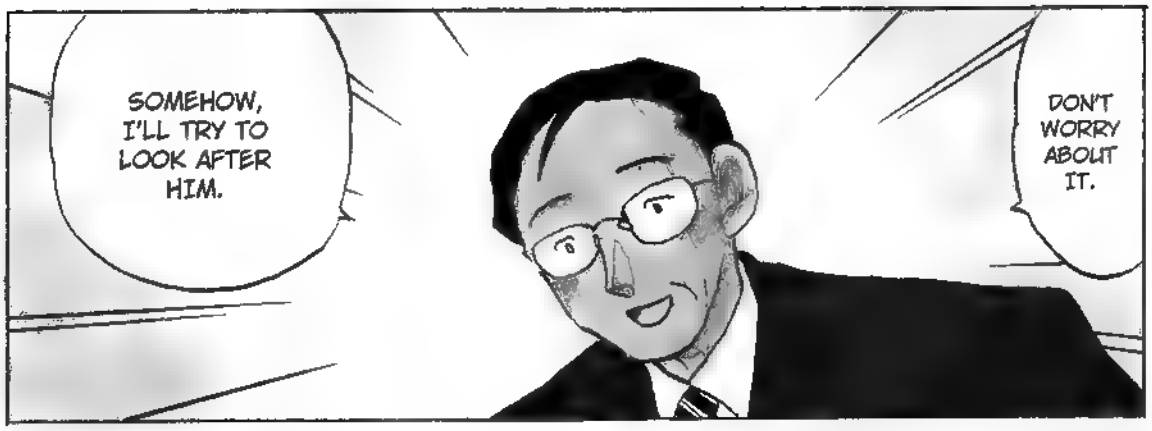
WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO ...
I'LL BE IN THE HOSPITAL FOR A MONTH.

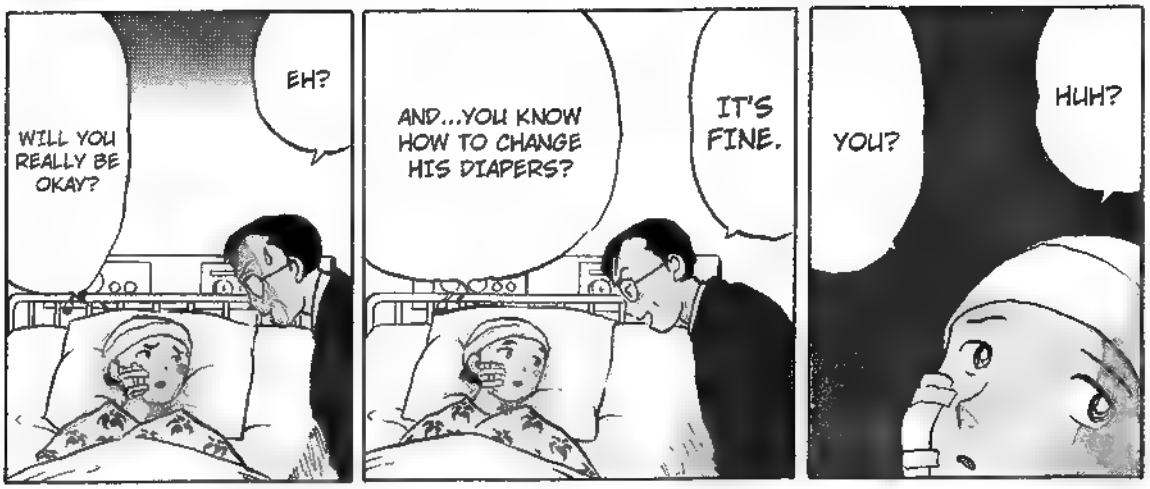
IT DOESN'T MATTER. IT CAN'T BE HELPED.

MY FOOT SLIPPED ON THE STAIRS AT THE SUPERMARKET...
THE BONE IS BROKEN.
WHAT HAPPENED!?

5


SINCE HE ALREADY HAS A HOME NURSING SERVICE ORGANIZED,
HE SHOULD BE FINE IN THE AFTERNOON...
BUT WHO'LL TAKE CARE OF YOUR FATHER ...
BUT IN THE EVENING...

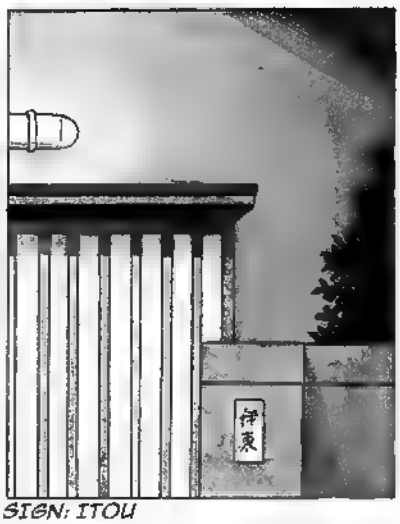

SOMEHOW, I'LL TRY TO LOOK AFTER HIM.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.


WILL YOU REALLY BE OKAY?
EH?
AND...YOU KNOW HOW TO CHANGE HIS DIAPERS?
IT'S FINE.
YOU?
HUH?

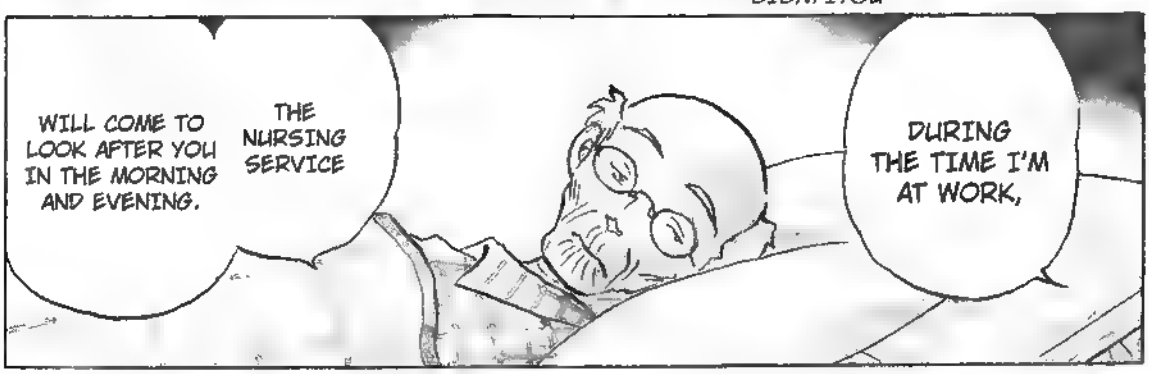
6

I CAN'T REALLY RECALL HIM EVER PRAISING OR SPOILING ME.
HIDEHIKO, DO YOUR BEST.
HE WAS A SERIOUS AND STRICT FATHER.
MY DAD USED TO BE A TEACHER BACK IN THE DAY.

SFX - UWAWAWAN

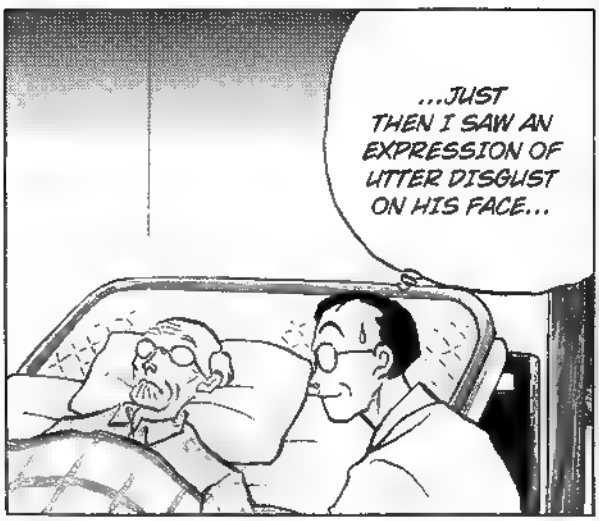


SIGN: ITOU



7

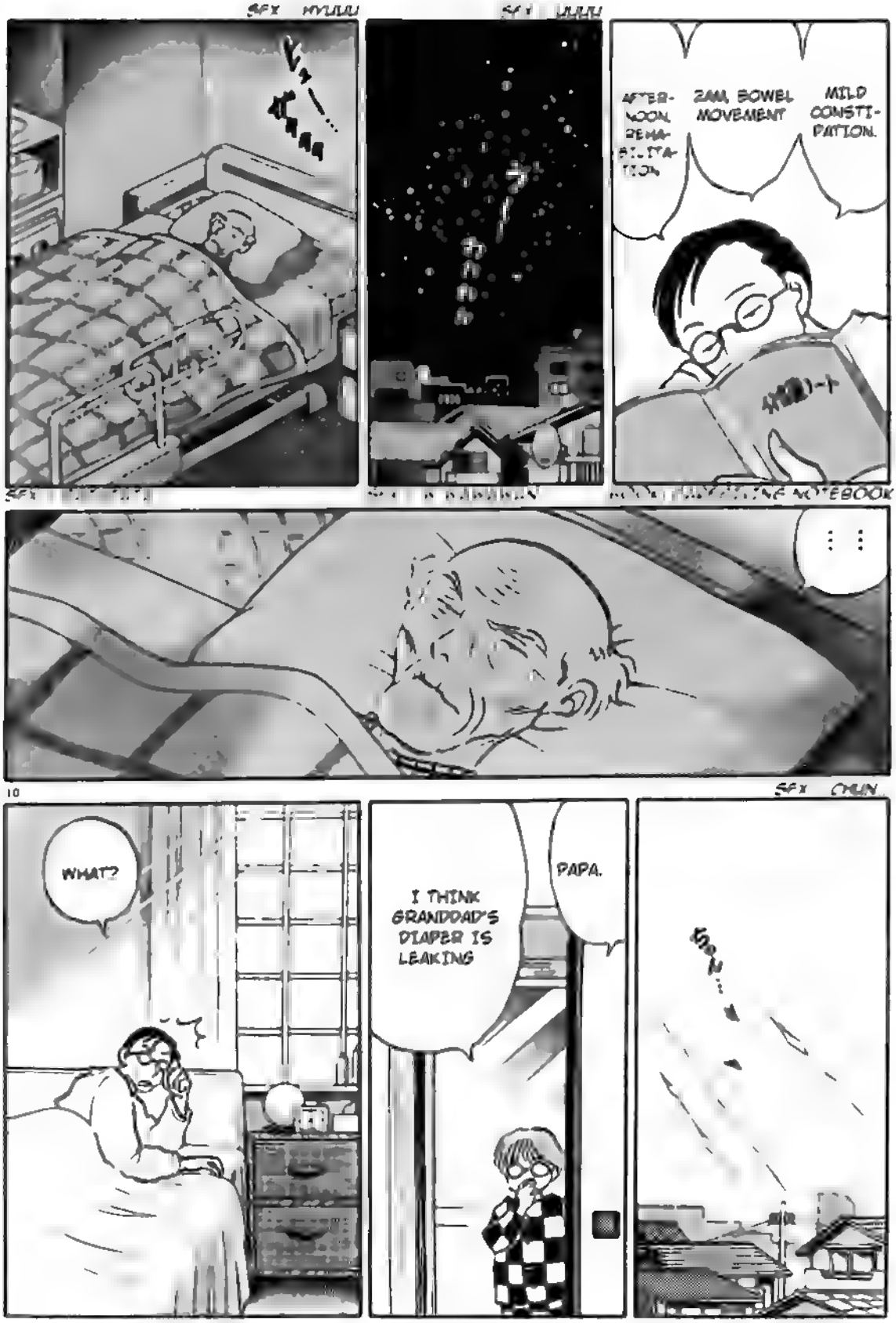
WELL, I'M IN YOUR HANDS.
IS THAT SO?

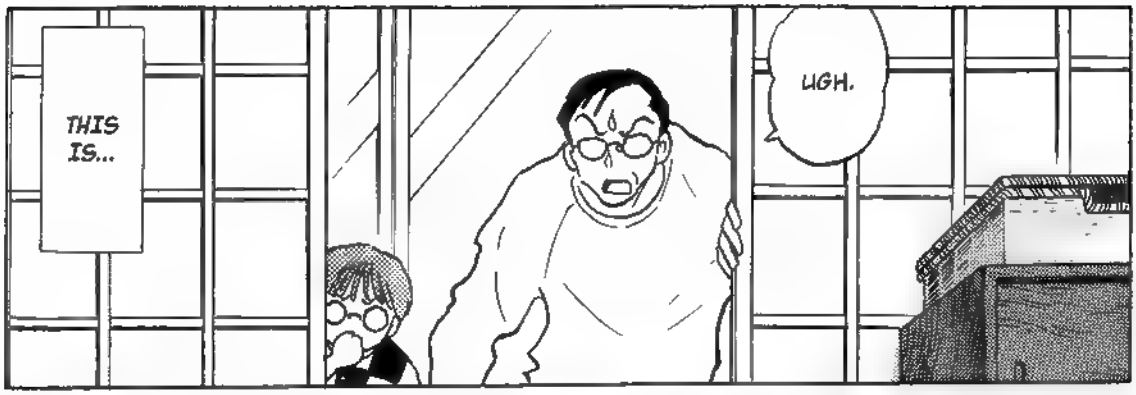

...JUST THEN I SAW AN EXPRESSION OF UTTER DISGUST ON HIS FACE...

8

YOU SHOULD GO TO BED, TOO.
I'LL SLEEP NOW.

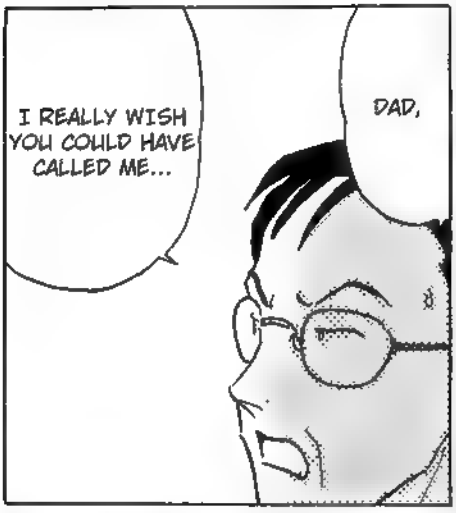
PAPA,
BEFORE MAMA GOES TO BED, SHE TAKES OFF GRANDDAD'S GLASSES.
THEN, SHE WASHES HIS FALSE TEETH...
.....
GOT IT. IF YOU NEED SOMETHING, JUST GIVE ME A CALL.
HUH.
THEN YOU SHOULD LOWER THE HEAD OF THE BED.
SFX - IIIIN
YOU SHOULD'VE TOLD ME, DAD.
OH, IS THAT RIGHT?
9
HUH, THERE'S A CAREGIVING NOTEBOOK, TOO.
I HAD JUST LEFT IT UP TO MY WIFE TO LOOK AFTER HIM.
I REALLY KNEW NOTHING AT ALL.
DO YOU NEED THE TOILET, DAD?
NEXT...
SFX - BUN BUN


SFX HYUUU
SFX UUUU
AFTER-NOON REHA-BILITA-TION
2AM BOWEL MOVEMENT
MILD CONSTI-PATION.
10
SFX CHUN
WHAT?
I THINK GRANDDAD'S DIAPER IS LEAKING
PAPA.

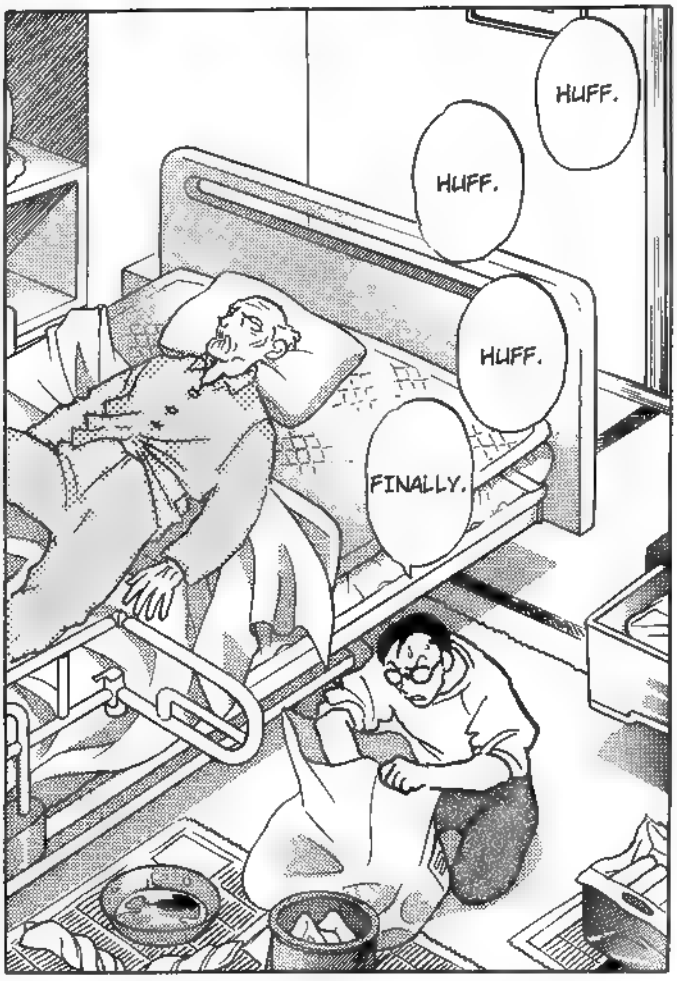

THIS IS...
UGH.

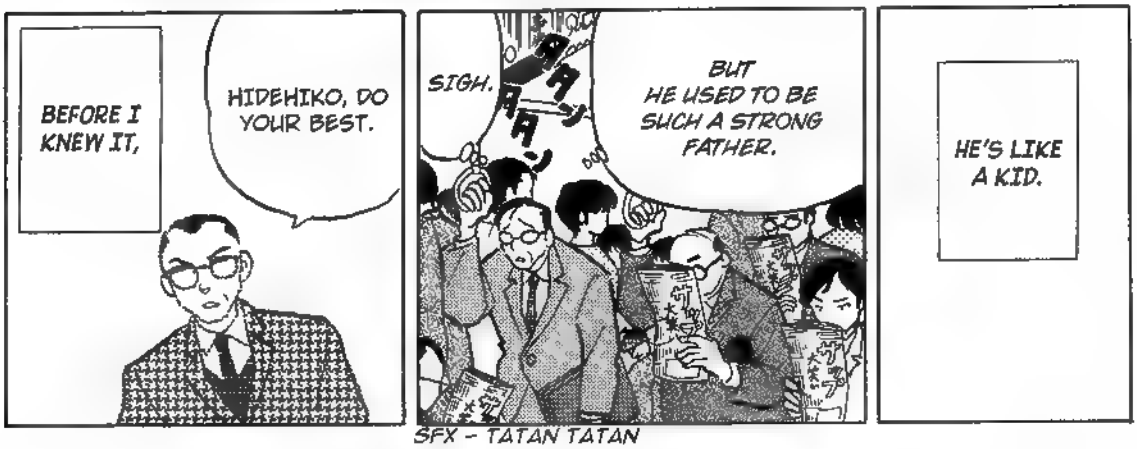
THERE WAS SO MUCH TO DO.
IT WAS REALLY DIFFICULT.
IT WAS ALREADY TERRIBLE.

11

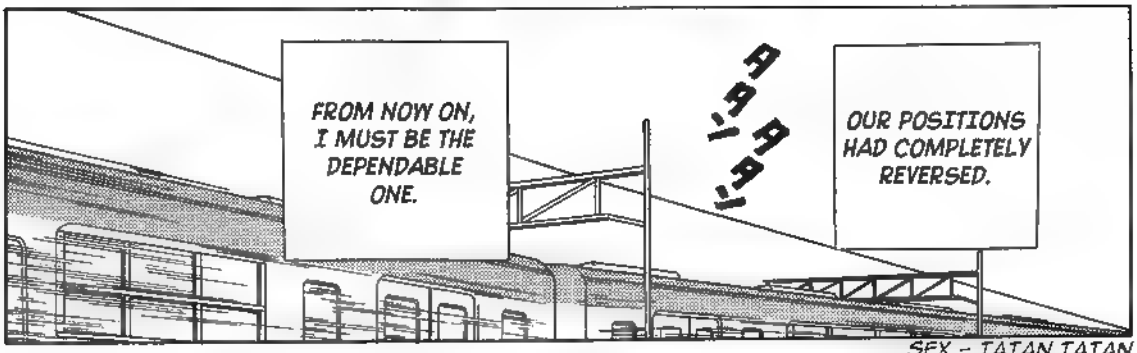

I REALLY WISH YOU COULD HAVE CALLED ME...
DAD,

.....
ぴっ
SFX - PUI


HUFF.
HUFF.
HUFF.
FINALLY.

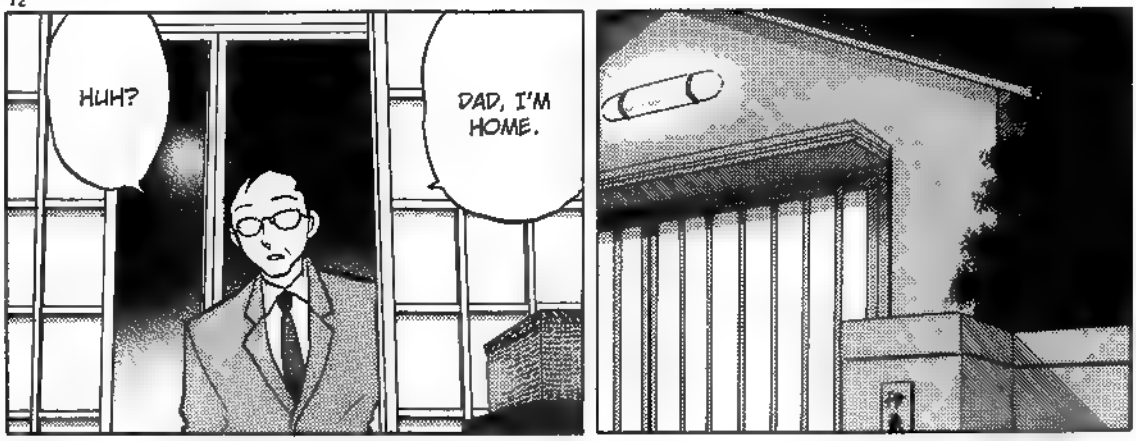


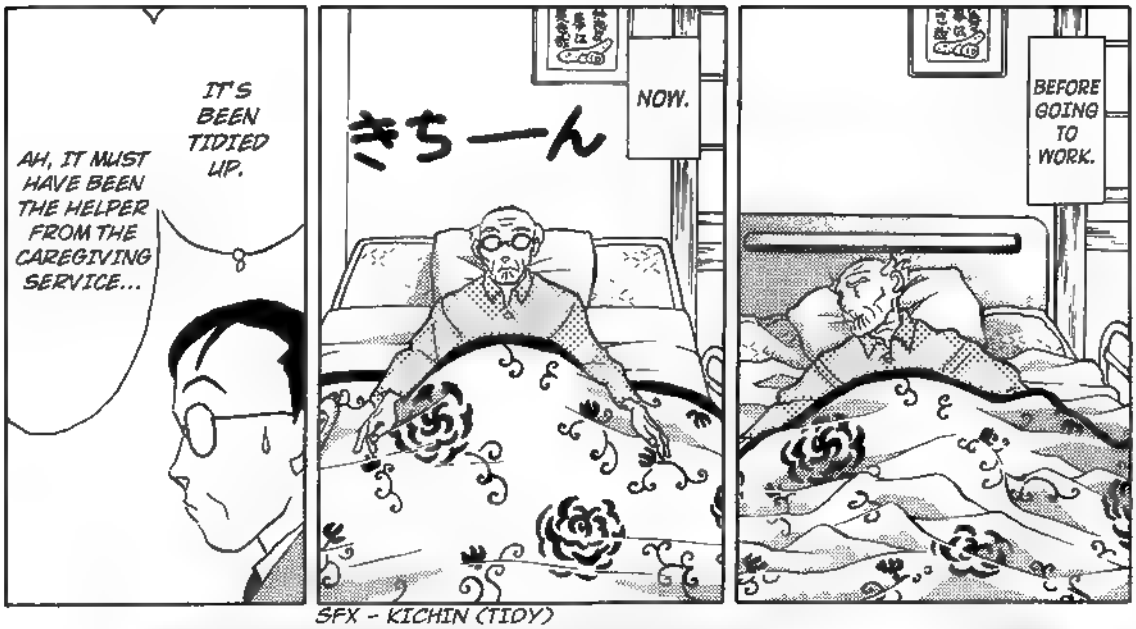
SFX – TATAN TATAN



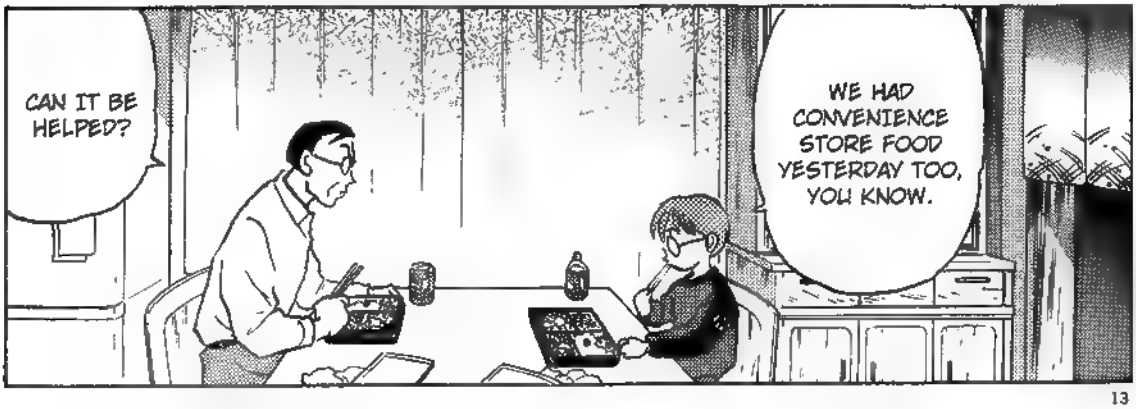
SFX – TATAN TATAN

12

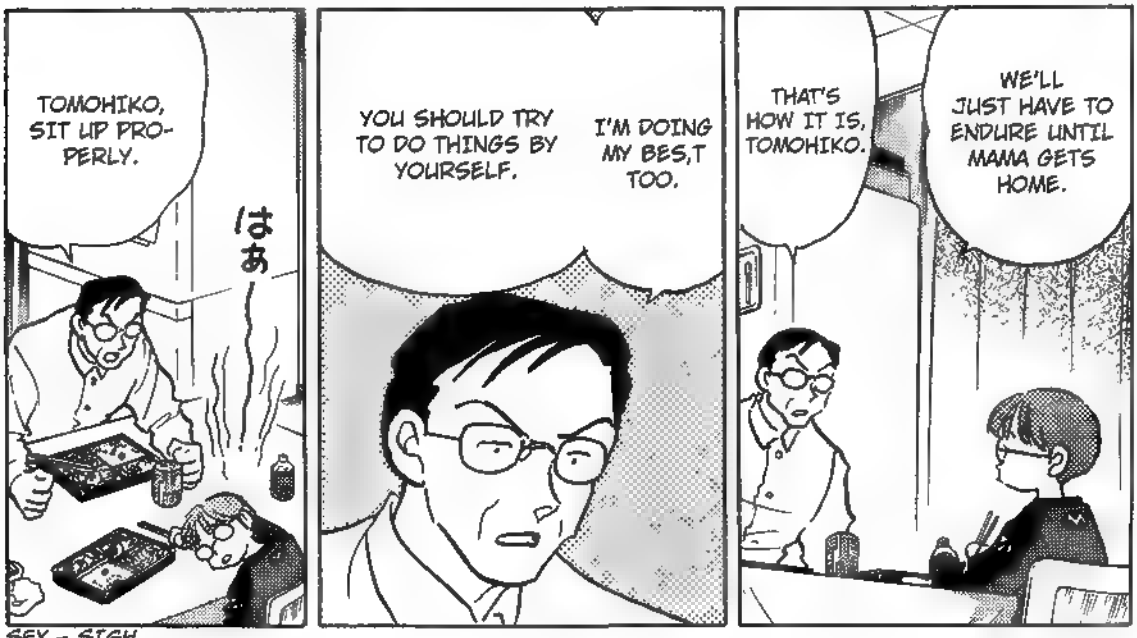




SFX - KICHIN (TIDY)



13

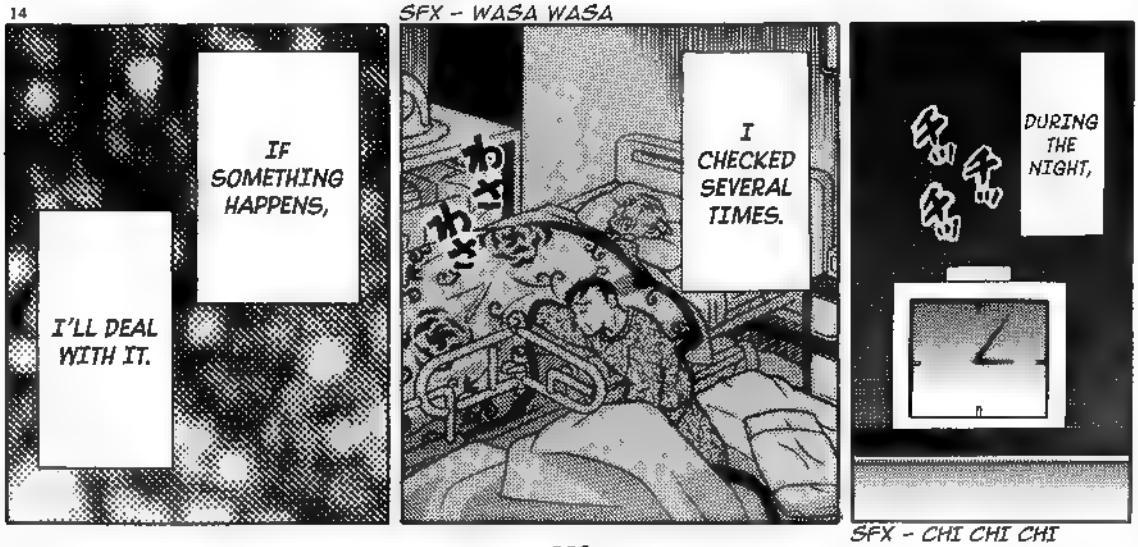

TOMOHIKO, SIT UP PROPERLY.
はぁ
YOU SHOULD TRY TO DO THINGS BY YOURSELF.
I'M DOING MY BES,T TOO.
THAT'S HOW IT IS, TOMOHIKO.
WE'LL JUST HAVE TO ENDURE UNTIL MAMA GETS HOME.

SFX - SIGH...

DAD, FROM TONIGHT, I'LL BE SLEEPING HERE.
AT ANY RATE, IN ORDER TO AVOID THE DISASTER OF THIS MORNING,
I NEED TO BE PROACTIVE.
I'M SORRY.
RIGHT.

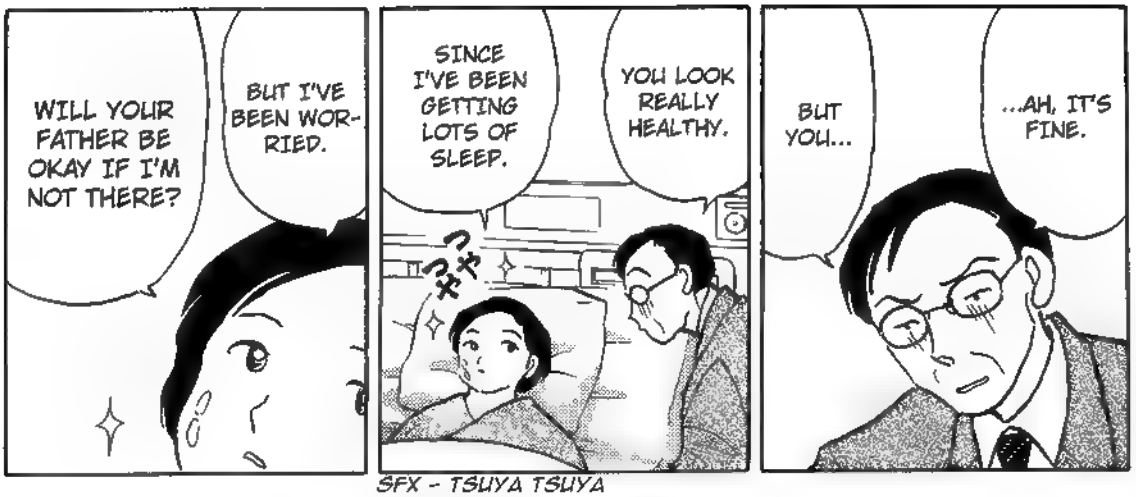
14

SFX – WASA WASA

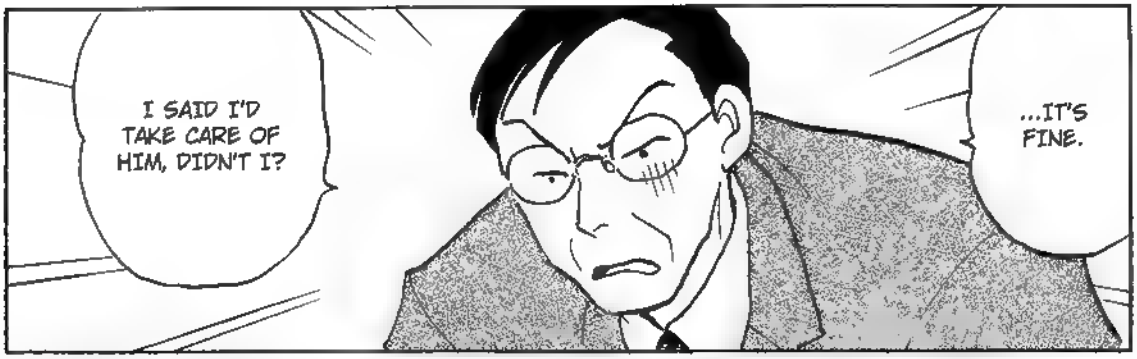


SFX – CHI CHI CHI

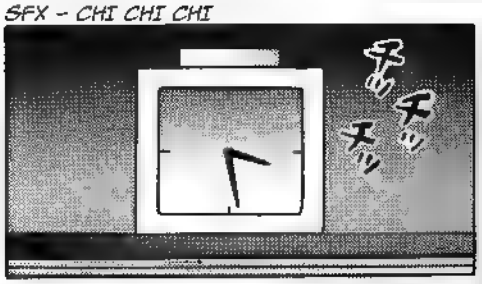
ヘルプ
I HOPE SHE'LL BE BACK SOON ...
YASUKO ...
SFX - HOOOO (SIGH)
は
EX-HAUSTED
わさ
AFTER A WEEK OF DOING THIS, I WAS...
SFX - WASA WASA
YASUKO-SAN...STILL NOT HERE, HUH...
SFX - BUUUUU
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
IT'S ONLY BEEN A WEEK SINCE SHE BROKE HER BONE.
15
DID YOU LOSE A LITTLE WEIGHT?
LONG TIME NO SEE.
学 病 院
SIGN: TEACHING HOSPITAL


WILL YOUR FATHER BE OKAY IF I'M NOT THERE?
BUT I'VE BEEN WORRIED.
SINCE I'VE BEEN GETTING LOTS OF SLEEP.
YOU LOOK REALLY HEALTHY.
BUT YOU...
...AH, IT'S FINE.

SFX - TSUYA TSUYA

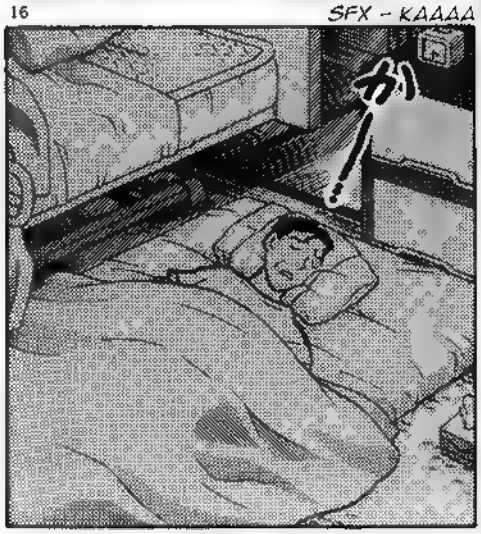


SFX - CHI CHI CHI

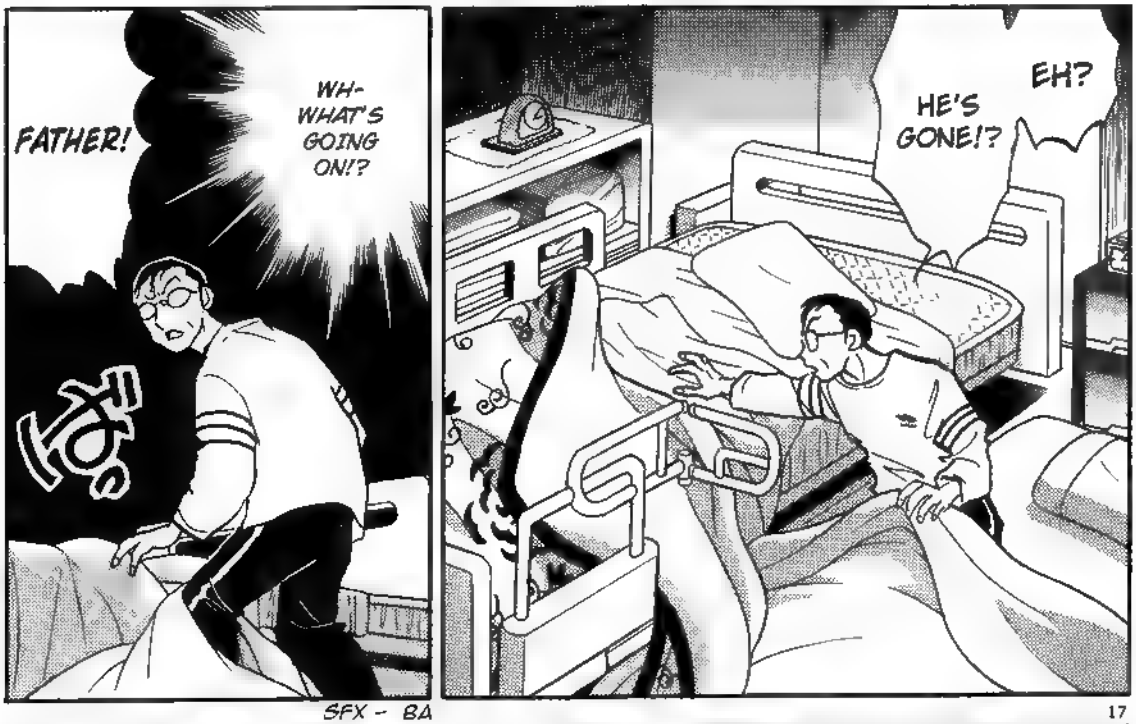


16

SFX - KAAAA

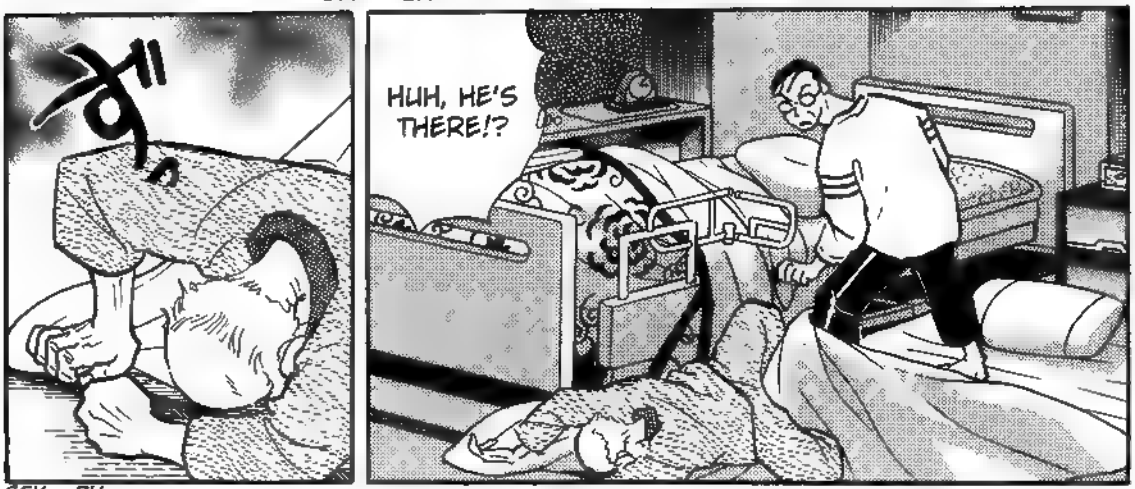


SFX – WASA



SFX – BA

17



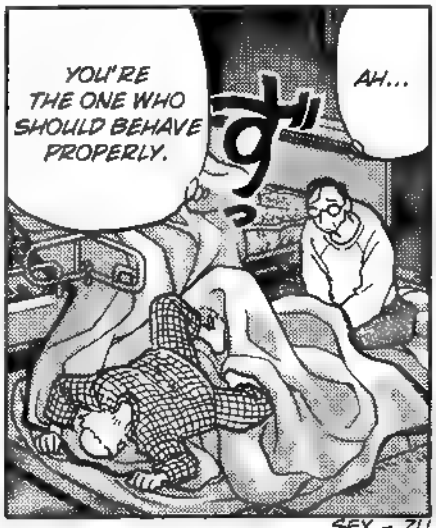
SFX – ZU

WHAT ARE YOU ?
WHAT
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT
WHAT HAPPENED ?
WHA.
どきどき
DON'T TE.. ME HE'S LOSING HIS MARBLES
どきどき
YOU'L. CATCH A COL.
どきどき
AT ANY RATE.
NOT AGAIN
UGH
THIS CONTINUES EVERY NIGHT
AND SO.

ヘルプ
SFX - GLIDE
WHY CAN'T YOU JUST SLEEP QUIETLY?
DOING THIS EVERY NIGHT...
I'VE GOT WORK TO GO TO EVERY DAY, YOU KNOW.
HEY,
HE PROBABLY JUST WANTS TO GO TO THE TOILET.
YOUR FATHER...
19
WHEN WE FIRST STARTED LIVING WITH HIM, HE DIDN'T LIKE THE IDEA OF ME CHANGING HIS DIAPER...
DIAGRAM
W C
THE TOILET?

SINCE A DAUGHTER-IN-LAW IS LIKE A TOTAL STRANGER.
HE MUST HAVE BEEN EMBARRASSED BY THE WHOLE IDEA.
HE OFTEN TRIED TO DRAG HIMSELF OVER TO THE TOILET.

SFX - ZU



SFX - ZU

20

SFX - ZUU

ヘルプ
DAD,
DO YOU WANT TO GO TO THE TOILET BEFORE YOU SLEEP?
SFX - POOON
ぽーん
HMM.
IT'S BETTER IF THE FAMILY CAN HELP WITH THE CARING...
SIGN. CAREGIVING NOTEBOOK
IF ONLY I'D DONE THIS FROM THE START.
とた…
OH MY.
SFX - TOTA
YES
……
21
I WAS EXHAUSTED.
AND SO...
すりっ
AND AT DAWN:
I'VE HAD ENOUGH...
SFX - ZURI
BUT NOT A DROP CAME OUT.

SFX – JIRIRIRI
SFX – CHICHI
WAKE UP, HIDEHIKO...
HIDE-HIKO ...
SFX – JI RI RI RI
SFX – KAAAA
SFX – CHI CHI CHI
THIS IS BAD!
TH-
どたたた
SFX – DOTATATA
SFX – DO TA TA TA
どたたた
I'VE GOT A REALLY IMPORTANT MEETING TODAY.
DAD, PLEASE TRY TO ENDURE UNTIL THE HELPER COMES ALONG.
22
...HMM, IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE HAVING A LITTLE TROUBLE.
I'M SO, SO SORRY.

BUT STILL,
I FLEW OUT OF THE HOUSE WITHOUT TAKING CARE OF DAD.
HE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND HUMAN SUFFERING...
DAMMIT ...
YOU CAN TAKE SOME TIME OFF TO GIVE HIM YOUR UNDIVIDED ATTENTION?
HOW'S THIS?
AH, ARE YOU THE HELPER FROM THE CARE SERVICE?
WC
I'M A LITTLE WORRIED ABOUT HIM.
I TOOK PROPER CARE OF HIM, THOUGH.
AH, FORGIVE ME.
I FELT SORRY FOR HIM BEING LEFT LIKE THAT.
WELL, WHATEVER HAPPENED?
23
I WAS PROBABLY AT MY LIMIT.
AND SO ON THAT DAY,

SFX – HYUU
I NOTICED THAT THE CORRIDOR IN FRONT OF DAD'S ROOM SEEMED CLEAN.
……
ヒた…
THE AREA AROUND IT WAS STILL DIRTY WITH DUST.
IT WAS JUST WHERE DAD WOULD CRAWL EVERY NIGHT.
NO, RATHER...
24
HIDE-HIKO...
きちーん
SFX – KICHIIIN
SO I THOUGHT I'D TRY TO DO MY BEST.
カラ…
SFX – KARA
A FEW DAYS AGO, I GAVE MY SON SOME MONEY SO HE COULD BUY HIMSELF FOOD.

I TRIED TO WAKE YOU MANY TIMES.
……
ぴくっ…
DID YOU MAKE YOUR MEETING IN TIME?
HIDE-HIKO…
SFX - WASA WASA
IT'S NOT DIRTY…?
わさわさ
SFX - PIKU
BUT…
THAT ISN'T YOUR RESPONSI-BILITY.
YOU SHOULD BE DOING IT PROPERLY …
IT'S YOUR JOB…
SFX - BUCHI
ぶち

I'VE BEEN LOOKING AFTER YOU TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY,

AND NOT A WORD OF THANKS.

THEN ACTING LIKE A FATHER AND LECTURING ME.

CRAWLING AWAY IN DISGUST...

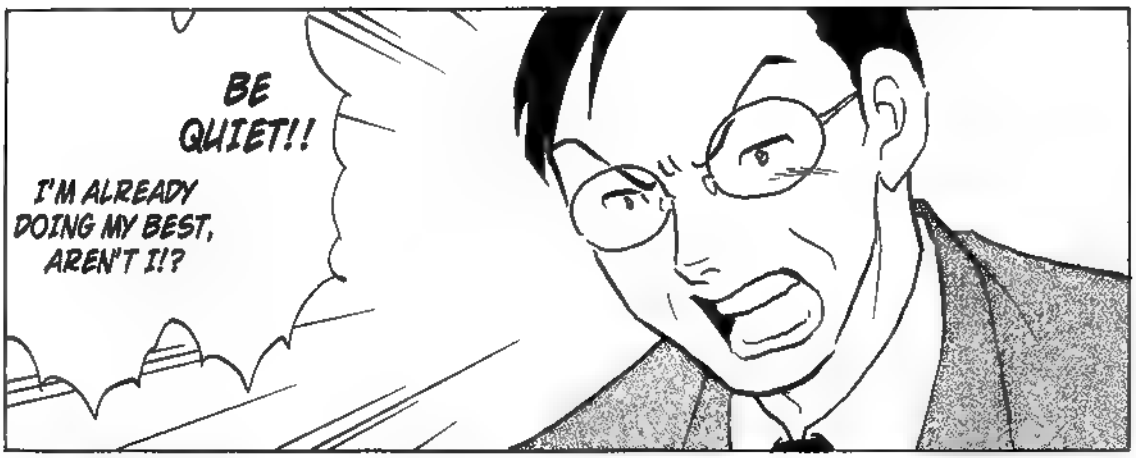
THESE ARE ALL THE THINGS I THOUGHT ABOUT.

26

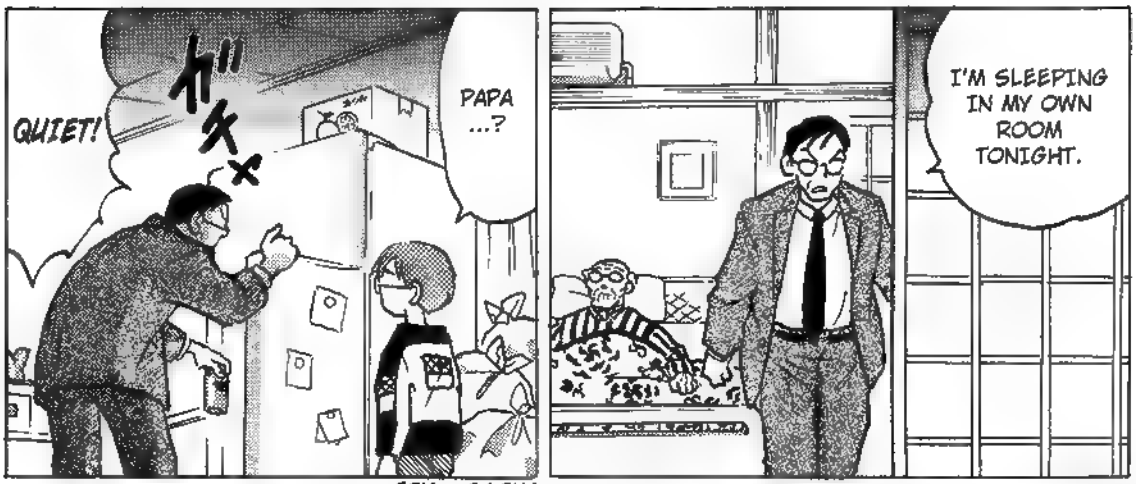
HIDE-HIKO...

BUT THIS IS ENTIRELY ALL YOUR FAULT!

SFX - BURU BURU



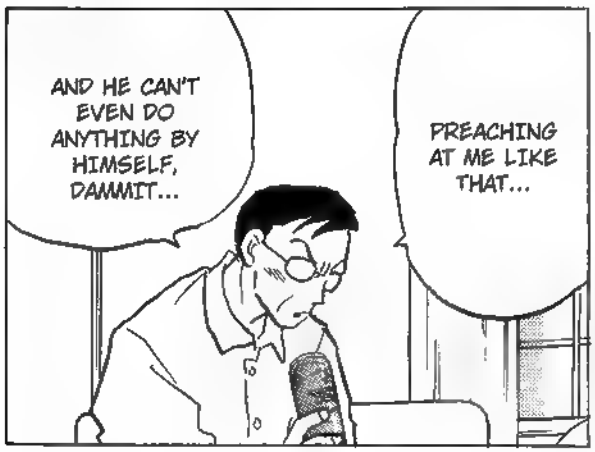
SFX - BIKU (SHOCK)

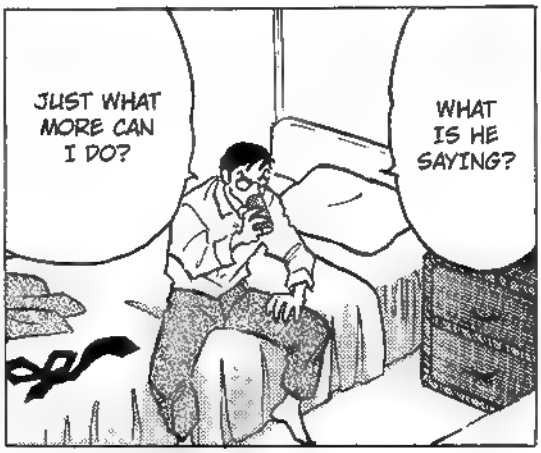


SFX - GACHA

27

HIDEHIKO, DO YOUR BEST.


AND HE CAN'T EVEN DO ANYTHING BY HIMSELF, DAMMIT...
PREACHING AT ME LIKE THAT...


JUST WHAT MORE CAN I DO?
WHAT IS HE SAYING?

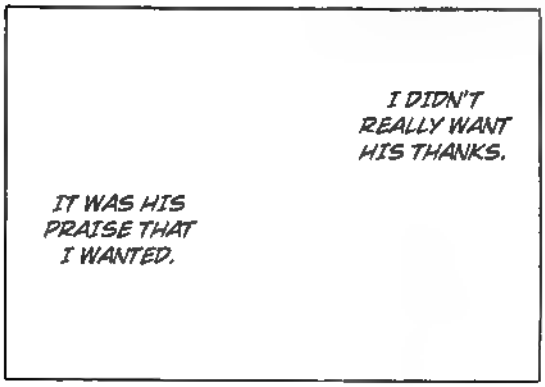
28

BUT DID I REALLY WANT TO BE PRAISED?

HE'S BEEN LIKE THAT SINCE WAY BACK.
NO MATTER WHAT I DID, I'D NEVER RECEIVE ANY PRAISE.

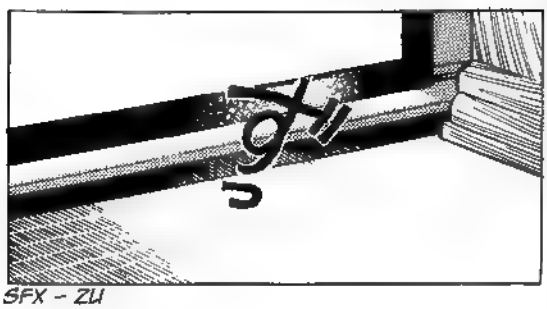
HE CAN'T DO ANYTHING BY HIMSELF.
THE WAY HE IS,

29


I DIDN'T REALLY WANT HIS THANKS.
IT WAS HIS PRAISE THAT I WANTED.

FATHER IS IN A CONDITION LIKE THAT...
AND I WANTED TO BE PRAISED BY HIM.

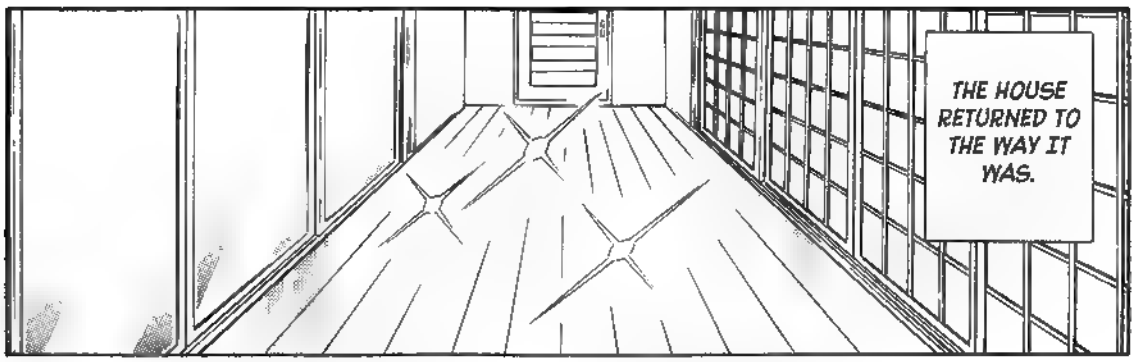
I'M...
I'M THE COMPLETELY CHILDISH ONE HERE.


ZU

SFX - ZU

SFX - ZUU
SFX - ZUU
PAPA,
SFX - ZU
SFX - ZU
GRANDDAD PAPA, IS...
30
HIDE-HIKO...

ARE YOU OKAY?
HIDE-HIKO...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
WH...
I'M FINE NOW.
YEAH...
HE WAS WORRIED ABOUT ME.
31
IT'S FULL OF TRASH.
UGH, WHAT'S UP WITH THIS HOUSE?
A FEW DAYS LATER, MY WIFE CHECKED OUT OF HOSPITAL.



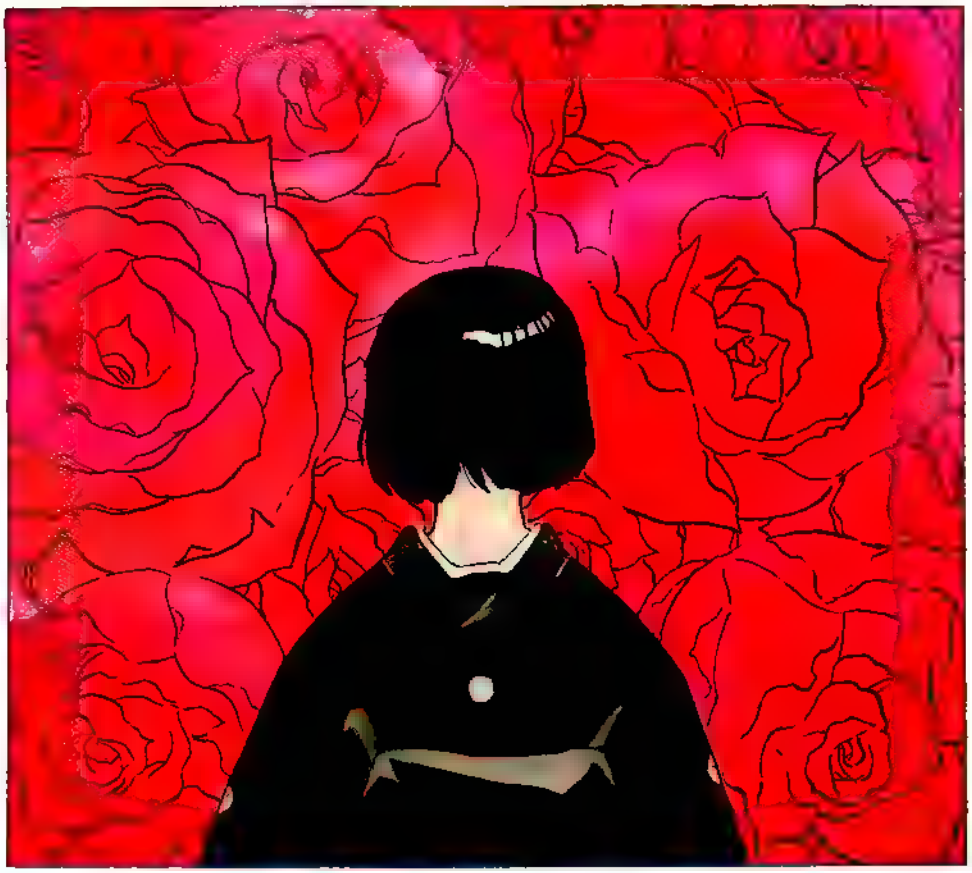
I'VE NO IDEA HOW LONG THAT'LL CONTINUE FOR, THOUGH,

WITH A HELPING HAND, HE COULD WALK TO THE TOILET.

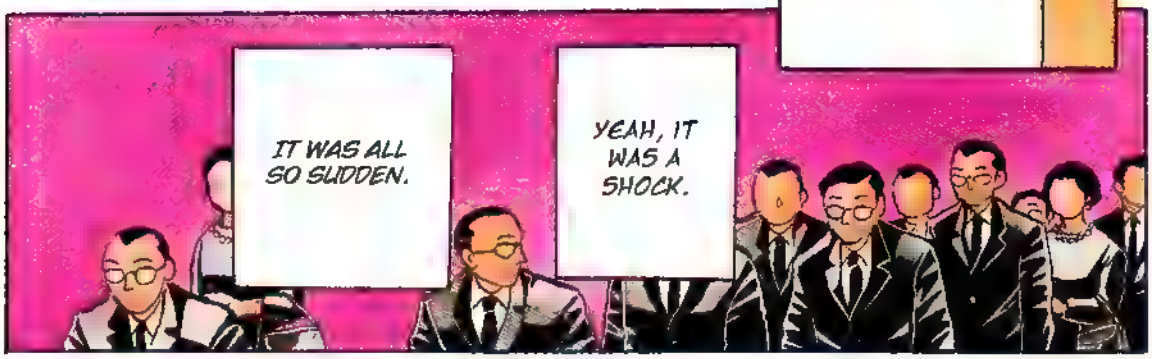
AND SO IN PRACTICALLY NO TIME,

32

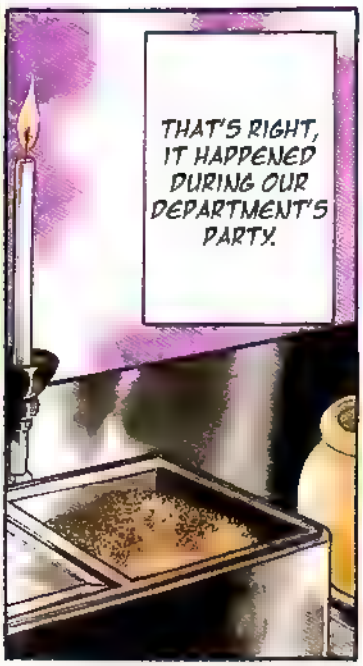
The Red Bouquet

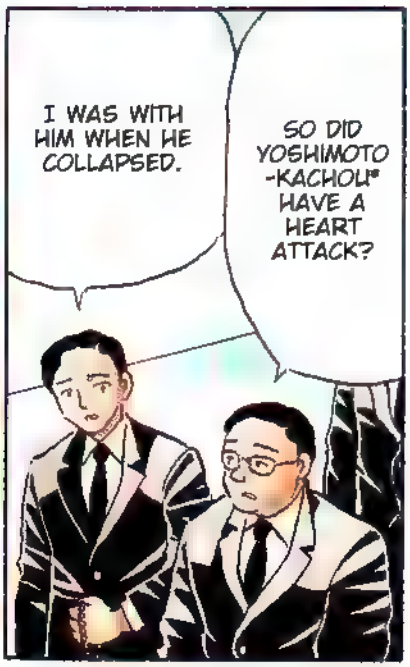


アルホール
IT JUST HAPPENED SO SUDDENLY.
IT WAS SO SURPRISING.
Overnight Vigil June 3rd 6:00pm
The Late Yoshimoto Ichi Funeral Service

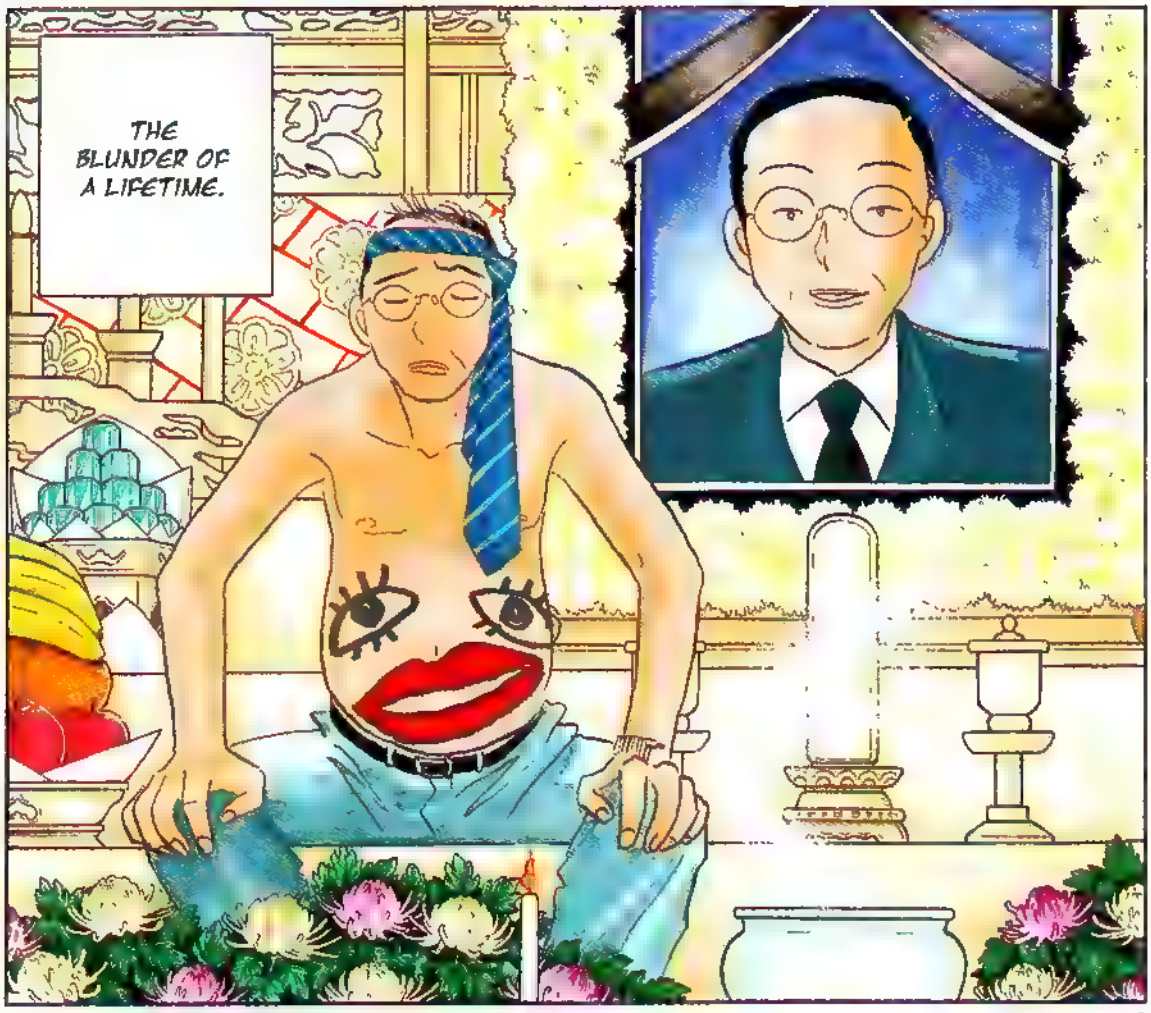


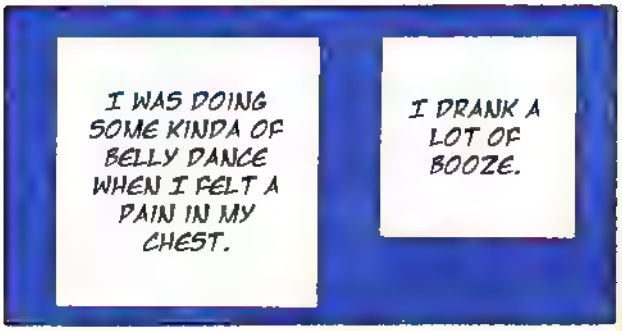
2

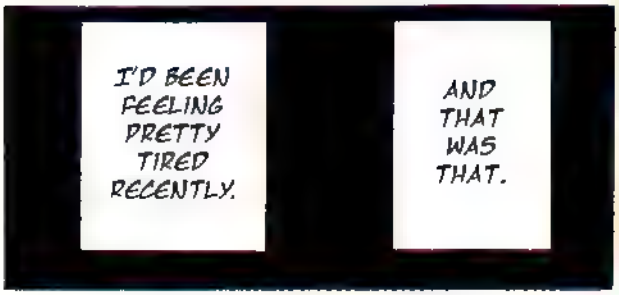


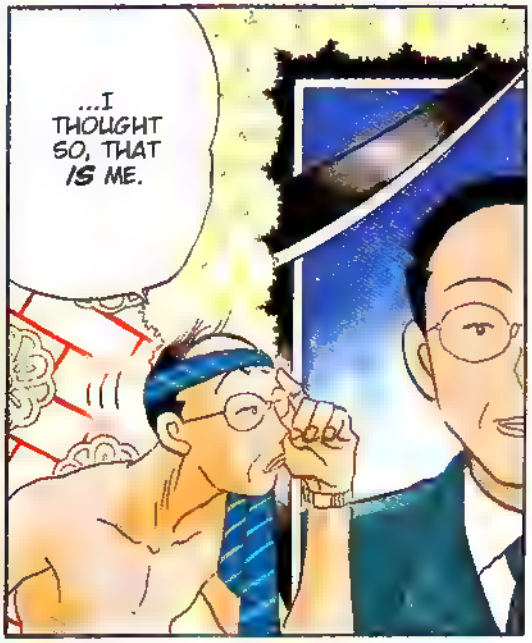


*KACHOU = SECTION MANAGER


THE BLUNDER OF A LIFETIME.
3

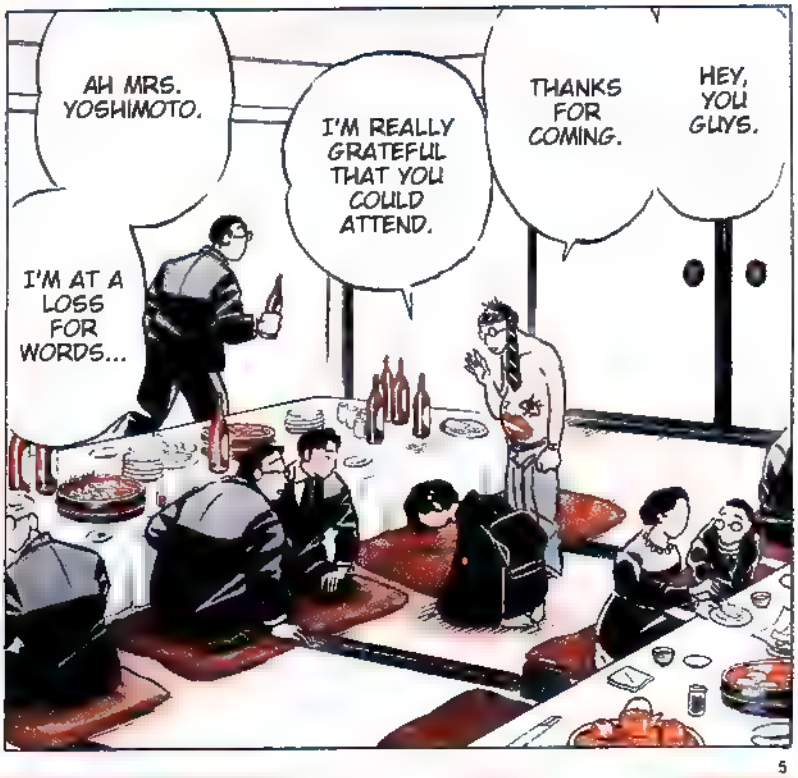

I WAS DOING SOME KINDA OF BELLY DANCE WHEN I FELT A PAIN IN MY CHEST.
I DRANK A LOT OF BOOZE.


I'D BEEN FEELING PRETTY TIRED RECENTLY.
AND THAT WAS THAT.

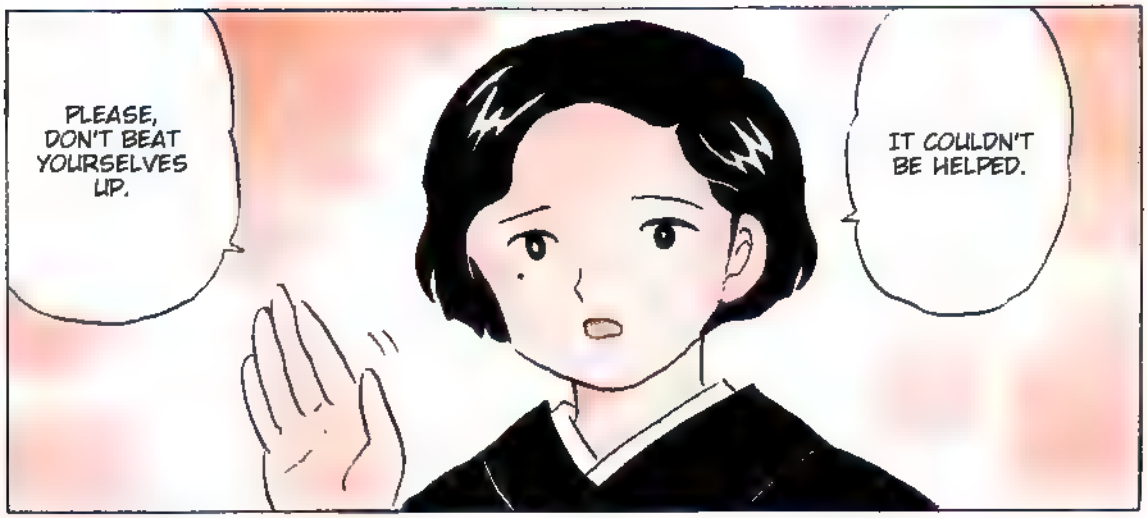

...I THOUGHT SO, THAT IS ME.

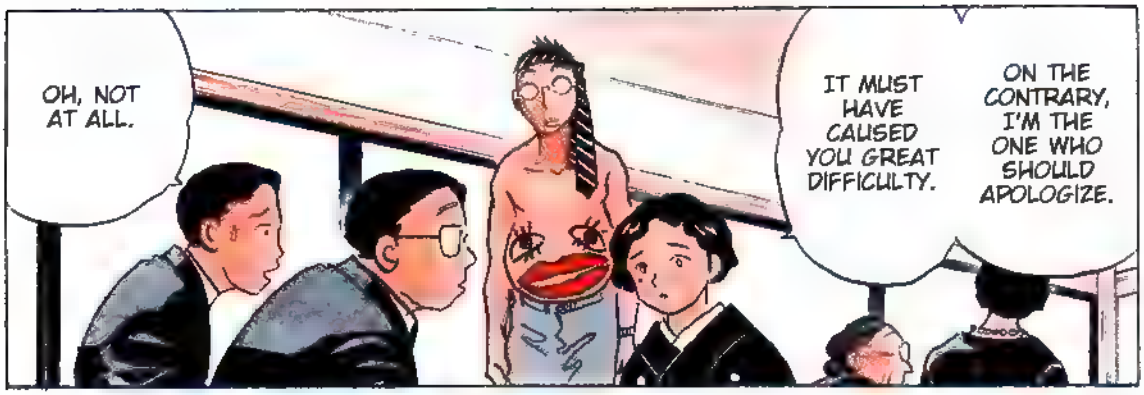
AH, FORGIVE ME YOU GUYS.
THEIR KID HAD ONLY JUST STARTED HIGH SCHOOL.
IT MUST BE HARD ON HIS WIFE.
AND TAMAYO WILL SURELY BE DEPRESSED FROM NOW ON.
MASAHIRO, I GUESS I'VE BEEN NEGLECTING YOU.
HOW-EVER...
YOU KNOW IT'S ALRIGHT TO CRY JUST A LITTLE BIT.
YOU GUYS...

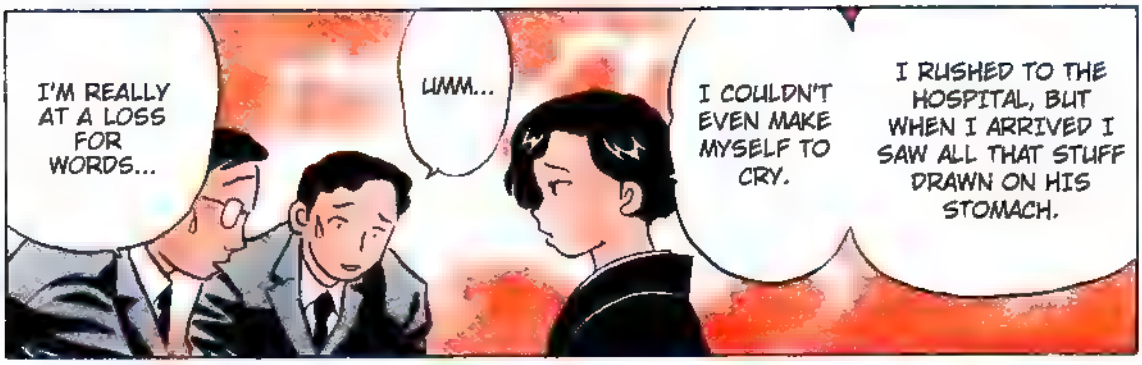
YOU'RE RIGHT, I REALLY DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY...
WE CALLED AN AMBULANCE STRAIGHT AWAY, BUT...

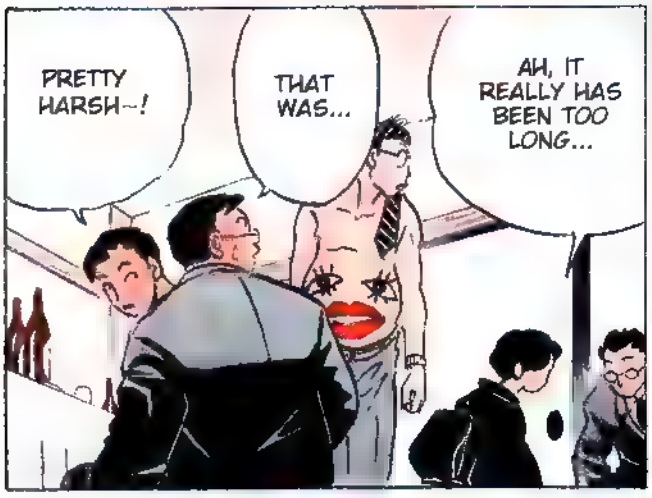

AH MRS. YOSHIMOTO.
I'M AT A LOSS FOR WORDS...
I'M REALLY GRATEFUL THAT YOU COULD ATTEND.
THANKS FOR COMING.
HEY, YOU GUYS.

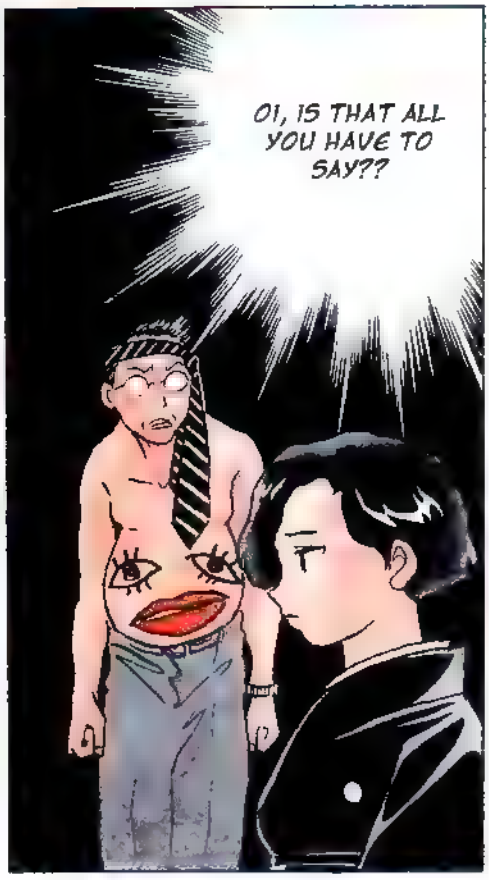
5


PLEASE, DON'T BEAT YOURSELVES UP.
IT COULDN'T BE HELPED.


OH, NOT AT ALL.
IT MUST HAVE CAUSED YOU GREAT DIFFICULTY.
ON THE CONTRARY, I'M THE ONE WHO SHOULD APOLOGIZE.

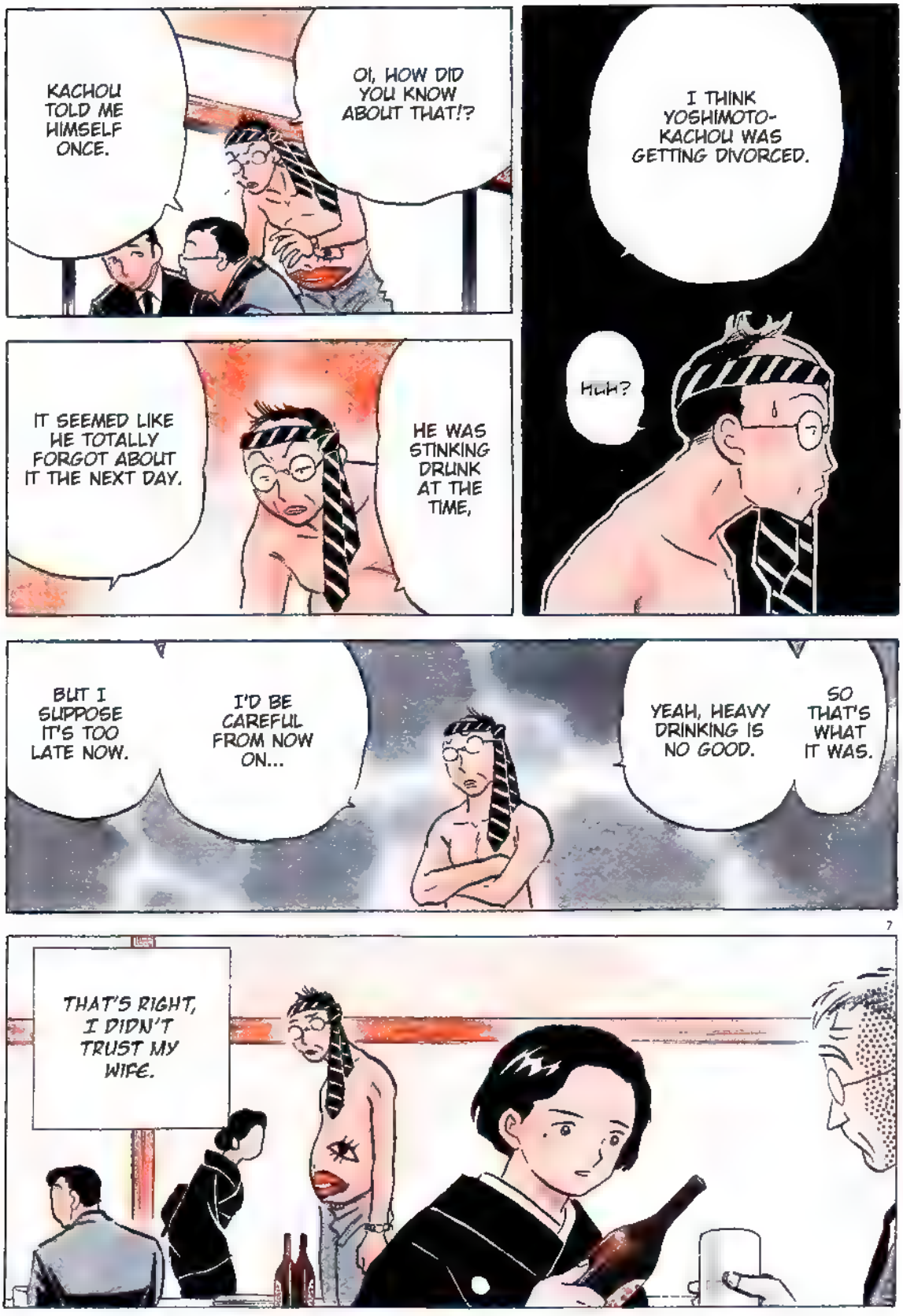

I'M REALLY AT A LOSS FOR WORDS...
UMM...
I COULDN'T EVEN MAKE MYSELF TO CRY.
I RUSHED TO THE HOSPITAL, BUT WHEN I ARRIVED I SAW ALL THAT STUFF DRAWN ON HIS STOMACH.

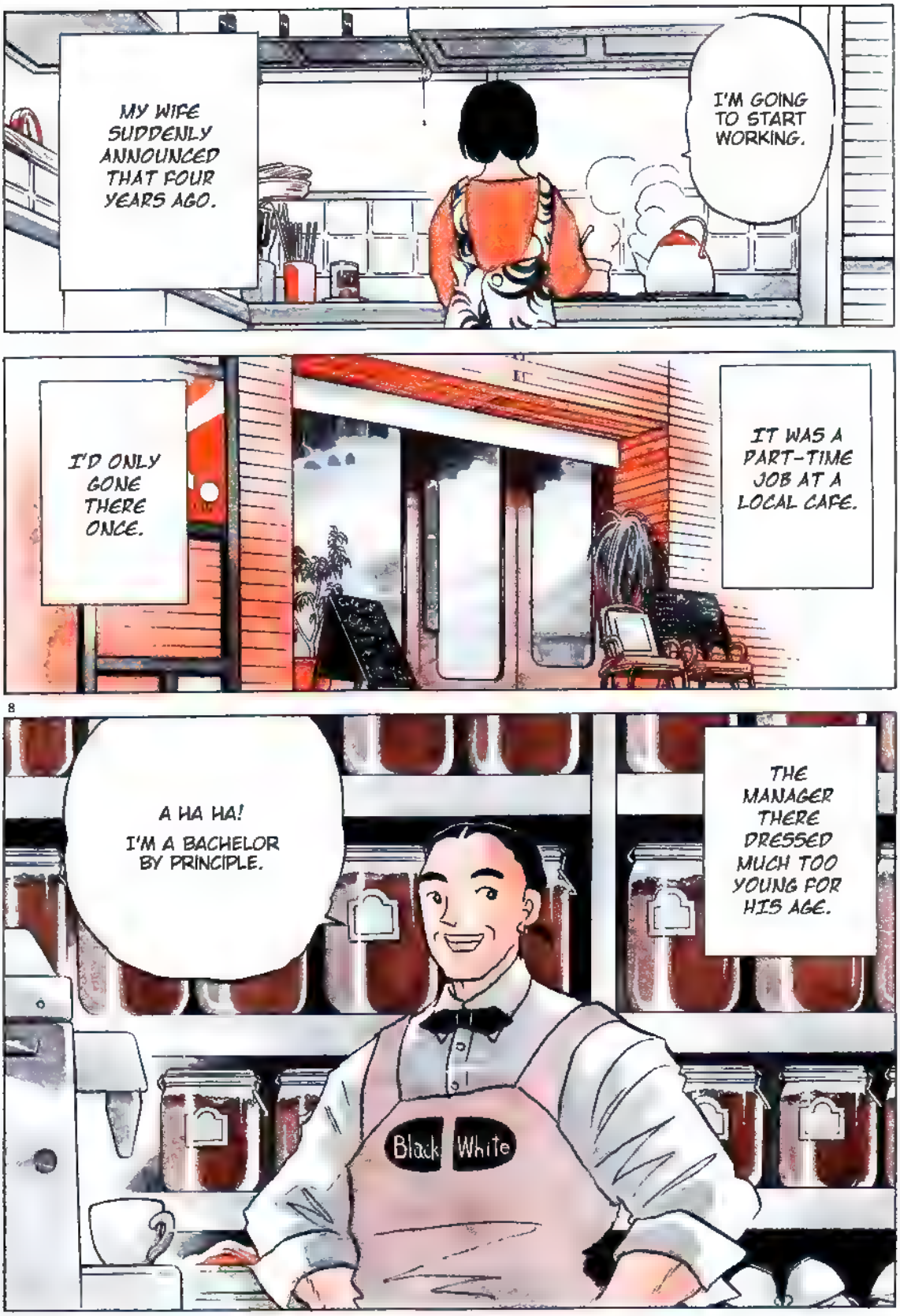

PRETTY HARSH~!
THAT WAS...
AH, IT REALLY HAS BEEN TOO LONG...


OI, IS THAT ALL YOU HAVE TO SAY??

6

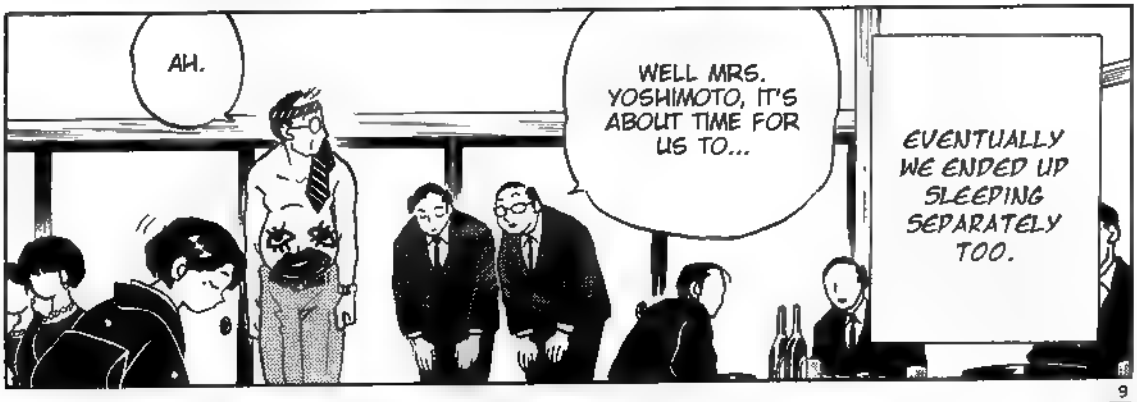
WHAT WAS?
SO I GUESS IT REALLY WAS TRUE.

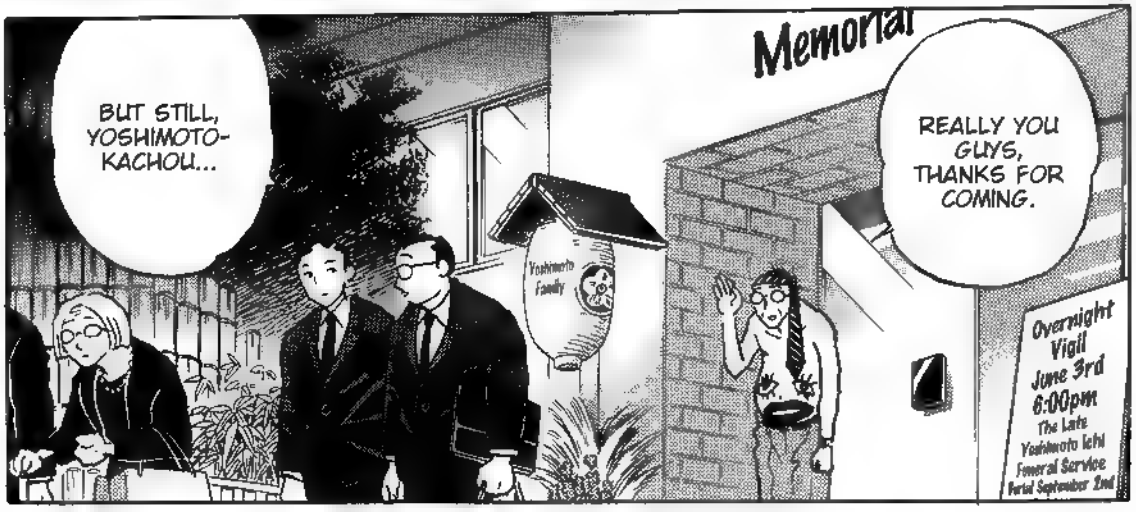

KACHOU TOLD ME HIMSELF ONCE.
OI, HOW DID YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT!?
I THINK YOSHIMOTO-KACHOU WAS GETTING DIVORCED.
HUH?
IT SEEMED LIKE HE TOTALLY FORGOT ABOUT IT THE NEXT DAY.
HE WAS STINKING DRUNK AT THE TIME,
BUT I SUPPOSE IT'S TOO LATE NOW.
I'D BE CAREFUL FROM NOW ON...
YEAH, HEAVY DRINKING IS NO GOOD.
SO THAT'S WHAT IT WAS.
7
THAT'S RIGHT, I DIDN'T TRUST MY WIFE.


MY WIFE SUDDENLY ANNOUNCED THAT FOUR YEARS AGO.
I'M GOING TO START WORKING.
I'D ONLY GONE THERE ONCE.
IT WAS A PART-TIME JOB AT A LOCAL CAFE.
8
A HA HA! I'M A BACHELOR BY PRINCIPLE.
THE MANAGER THERE DRESSED MUCH TOO YOUNG FOR HIS AGE.
Black White

NO, RATHER IT WAS MY WIFE WHO STOPPED TALKING.
EVER SINCE THEN, I STOPPED TALKING WITH MY WIFE.

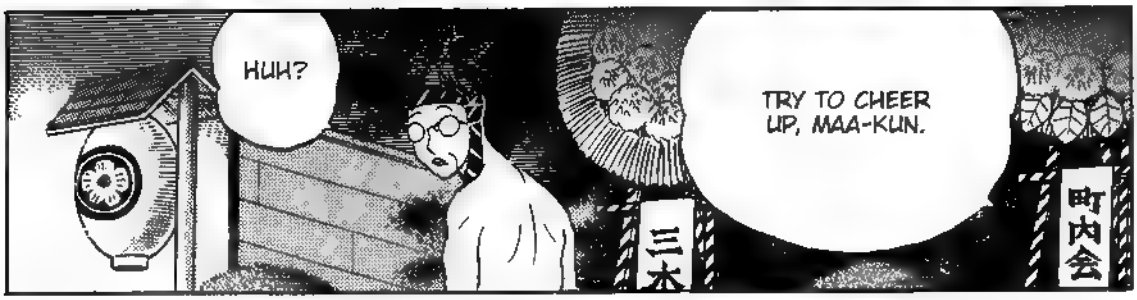
SHE NEVER SHUT UP.
UH-HUH.
ARE YOU LISTEN-ING?
HEY, I WANTED TO TALK ABOUT MASAHIRO'S SCHOOL.
BEFORE THEN...


AH.
WELL MRS. YOSHIMOTO, IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR US TO...
EVENTUALLY WE ENDED UP SLEEPING SEPARATELY TOO.


BUT STILL, YOSHIMOTO-KACHOU...
Memorial
REALLY YOU GUYS, THANKS FOR COMING.
Yoshimoto Family
Overnight Vigil June 3rd 6:00pm
The Late Yoshimoto Ichi Funeral Service Held September 2nd

OH.
QUITE SHOCKING*
IT SEEMS THAT HE WAS A CANDIDATE FOR REDUNDANCY.
HUH!?
HE DIED AT A SURPRISINGLY GOOD TIME.
PLUS THE BOY WAS GOING TO STAY WITH THE MOTHER.
UNEMPLOYED AND DIVORCED.
YOU DON'T NEED TO GO SO FAR WHEN TALKING ABOUT MY LIFE!!
SEARCHING FOR WORK WHILST PAYING ALIMONY AND CHILD SUPPORT... SUCH A LIFE MUST BE PRETTY BLEAK.
LEAD THE WAY.
CARE FOR ANOTHER DRINK?
I ALREADY KNEW ABOUT THAT!
三木
YOU GOT THAT RIGHT.
AT LEAST HE NEVER FOUND OUT THAT HE WAS GOING TO LOSE HIS JOB.
町内会

THAT'S WHY I ENDED UP IN THIS SORRY STATE.
THAT'S RIGHT, THAT'S WHY I WAS DRINKING SO HEAVILY...

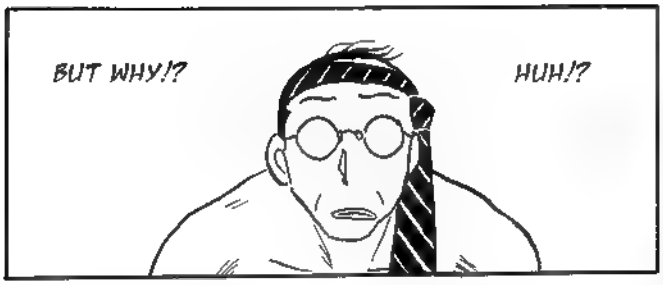

HUH?
TRY TO CHEER UP, MAA-KUN.
町内会
三木

ARE YOU TWO GOING OUT?
IS SHE YOUR GIRLFRIEND?
4F
3F
2F
1F
MASAHIRO!
メモ!
YEAH... AND BY THE WAY, THANKS FOR COMING HERE FOR ME.

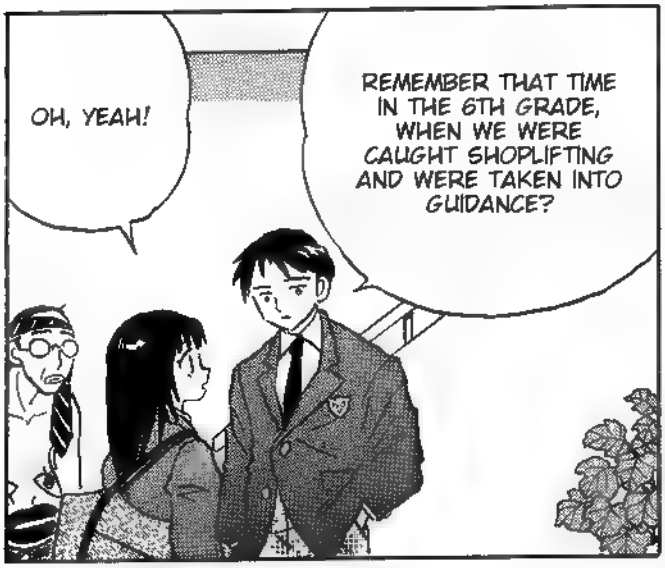
11

WHAT A PRETTY YOUNG LADY.
OH MY.
I FEEL SO SORRY FOR YOU.

I WANT TO BUT THE TEARS JUST WON'T COME OUT.
WELL,
YOU'RE SO STRONG, MAA-KUN.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SHOULD BE CRYING!
THERE'S NO REASON FOR YOU TO CRY.
DON'T CRY.
I REALLY THINK SHE DOESN'T CARE.
MAYBE BECAUSE MY MOTHER DOESN'T SEEM CONCERNED?
YEAH, HOW COME MASAHIRO?
HOW COME?
12
THINGS USED TO BE FINE AGES AGO. BUT THEN...
BUT WHY? DIDN'T THEY GET ON?
JUST AS I FEARED...?
...


BUT WHY!?
HUH!?

I THINK IT WAS PROBABLY MY FAULT...


OH, YEAH!
REMEMBER THAT TIME IN THE 6TH GRADE, WHEN WE WERE CAUGHT SHOPLIFTING AND WERE TAKEN INTO GUIDANCE?

13

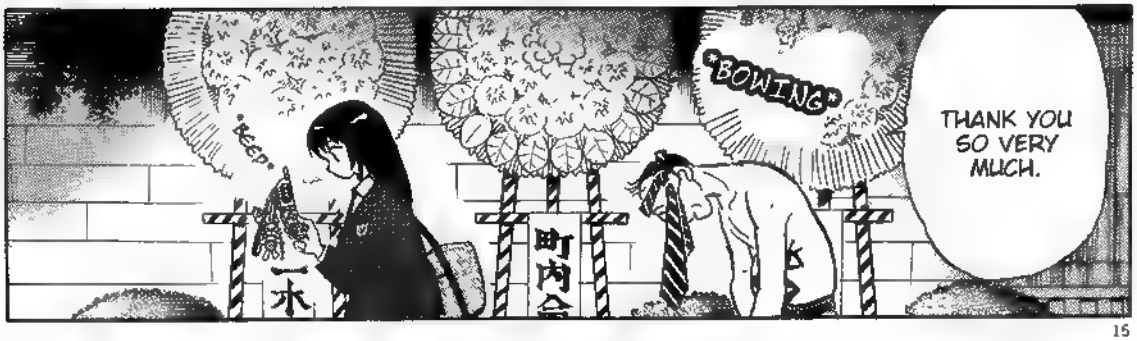
THAT'S TRUE.
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...

AND THEN MY FATHER DIDN'T COME HOME FROM WORK...
MY MOTHER WAS COMPLETELY SHOCKED.
防犯協會

THAT'S WHY...
EVER SINCE THEN, MY PARENTS STOPPED TALKING.

JUST HOLD ON...
THERE DEFINITELY MUST HAVE BEEN OTHER THINGS BUILDING UP WITH YOUR PARENTS.
AND MY PARENTS ARE STILL FINE!
I- I MEAN, I WAS THERE SHOPLIFTING TOO!
BUT THAT'S... THAT'S NOT YOUR FAULT, MAA-KUN!
DON'T AGREE SO EASILY YOU TWO!!
YOU COULD BE RIGHT.
HUH... MAYBE...
14
I THINK YOU SHOULD CRY FOR YOUR FATHER.
EVEN SO...

LATER MAA-KUN!
YOUNG LADY...
SH- SHE'S REALLY A GOOD LITTLE GIRL!
SHOCKED
CRY FOR HIM.
I FEEL SORRY FOR HIM.
THANK YOU!


KEEP
BOWING
THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH.
一本
町内会

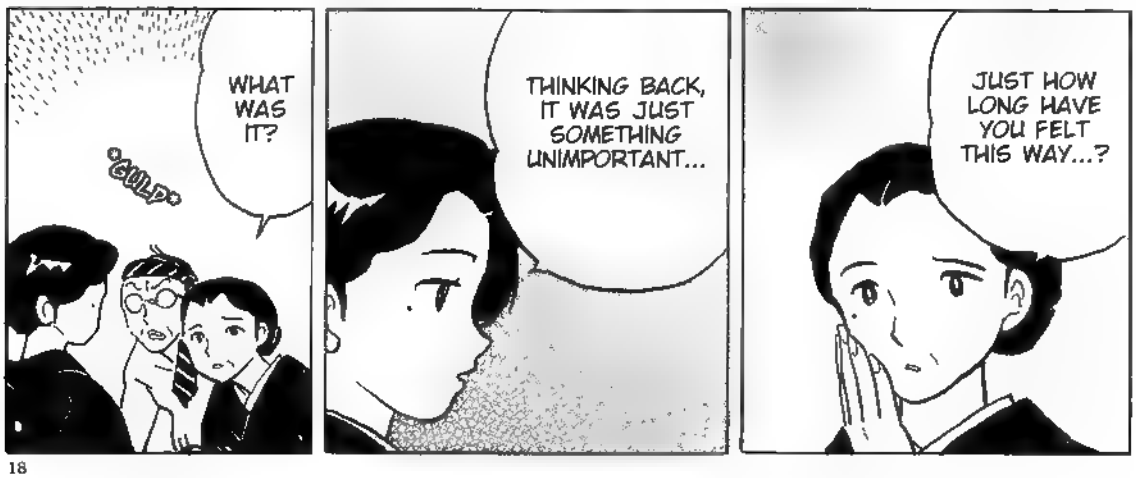
15

I'LL COME HOME AFTER KARAOKE.
AH, BUT I ALREADY PROMISED THAT I WOULD GO.
COULD YOU RECORD SMAP×SMAP FOR ME?
AH, MAMA?
町内会
宮本家

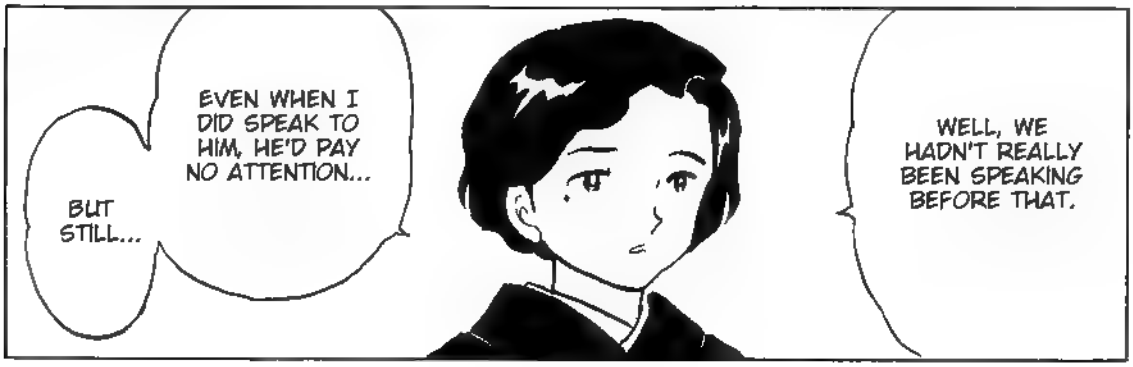
I'M HEADING OVER NOW.
AH, YUKKO? YEAH, IT'S FINISHED.
TREMBLING?
WH-WHAT'S WITH THIS GIRL...
THAT SHOPLIFTING INCIDENT WITH MASAHIKO WAS THE TURNING POINT...
BUT EVEN STILL,
AH.
YOU KNOW YOU CAN TALK TO ME ABOUT ANYTHING.
BUT TAMAYO, IT'LL BE PRETTY HARD FROM NOW ON...
I'M GOING TO START WORKING.
16
I'LL BE FINE, SIS.
PLEASE TAKE CARE OF TAMAYO FOR ME.
IT'S MY WIFE'S OLDER SISTER TSUKIYO-SAN.
SHE CAME FROM THE COUNTRYSIDE TO PAY HER RESPECTS.

I DON'T THINK MY LIFESTYLE WILL END UP CHANGING THAT MUCH.
MY HUSBAND ALWAYS MADE SURE TO PAY HIS LIFE INSURANCE REGULARLY.
I MEAN, I WON'T BE THERE FOR A START.
IT'LL CHANGE A LOT, RIGHT?
IF YOU SAY SO...
...
IT'S NOT THAT I'M STRONG.
YOU'RE SO STRONG.
TAMAYO...
17
SO I JUST DIDN'T RELY ON MY HUSBAND ANYMORE.
I ENDED UP LOOKING AFTER MASAHIKO MORE AND MORE BY MYSELF.
THE THING IS,

OH THAT... YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT WHEN WE WERE NEWLYWEDS.
AND YOU ALWAYS GOT A BOUQUET ON YOUR BIRTHDAY.
I MEAN YOU WERE SO HAPPY WHEN YOU CALLED ME ON THE PHONE.
AND TO THINK THAT WAY BACK WHEN YOU GOT MARRIED YOU WERE SO CLOSE.
HUH...
SHE DOESN'T LOVE ME...?
SO...

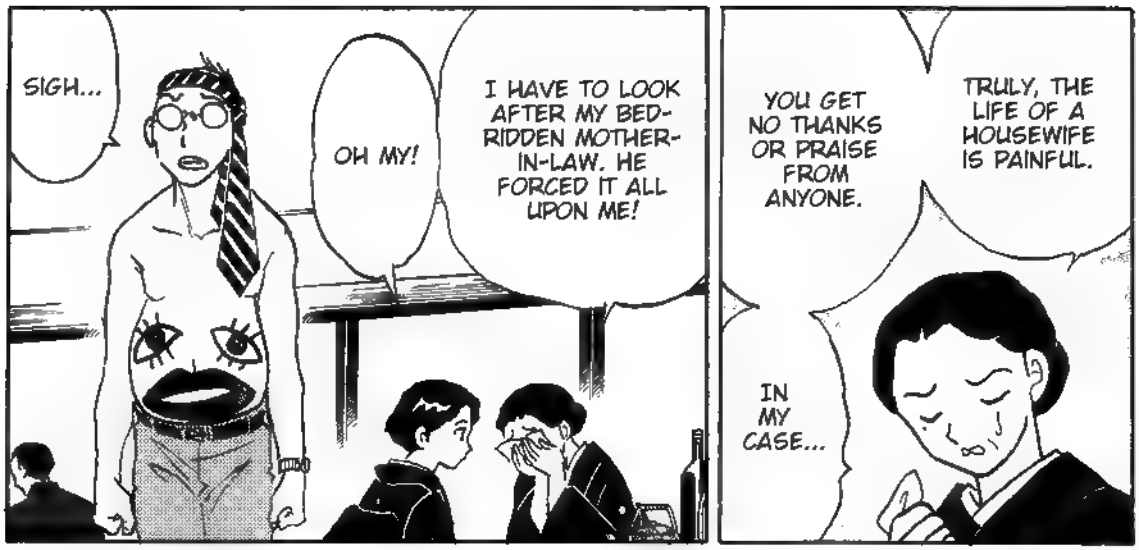

WHAT WAS IT?
"GULP"
THINKING BACK, IT WAS JUST SOMETHING UNIMPORTANT...
JUST HOW LONG HAVE YOU FELT THIS WAY...?

18

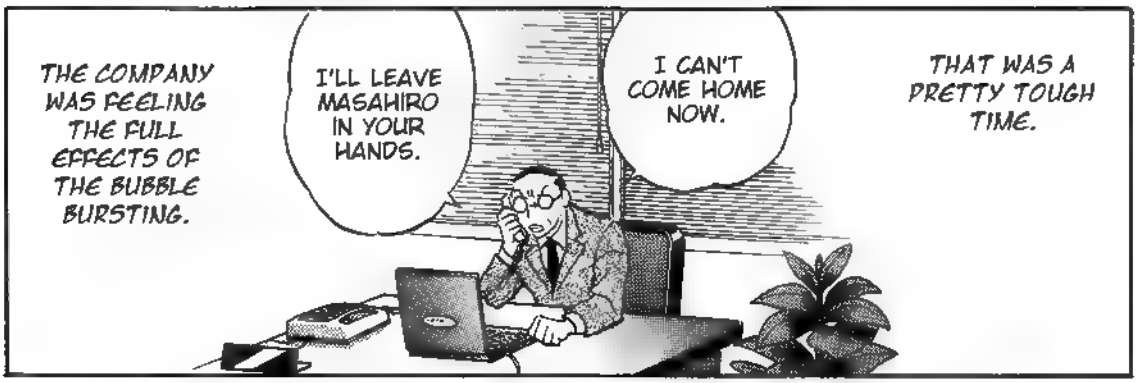

BUT STILL...
EVEN WHEN I DID SPEAK TO HIM, HE'D PAY NO ATTENTION...
WELL, WE HADN'T REALLY BEEN SPEAKING BEFORE THAT.

I WAS SHOCKED AND HEARTBROKEN..
I CALLED MY HUSBAND AT WORK...
BUT...
OUR BOY!?
EH, SHOP-LIFTING!?
IT WAS AROUND ABOUT THAT TIME...
AND SO I HAD TO GO AND FACE THE MUSIC ALONE, APOLOGISING IN TEARS.
HE SAID HE WOULDN'T LEAVE WORK, FOR ANY REASON...
19
YOU SEE THE THING IS, THAT DAY...
JUST BECAUSE I DIDN'T COME SKIPPING HOME?
AND GAVE YOU A PAINFUL MEMORY?
WHAT? SO THEN...
THE PROBLEMS REALLY STARTED BECAUSE OF THIS??

IT KIND OF MADE ME FEEL LIKE EVERYONE HAD FORGOTTEN ABOUT ME.
AND SO AFTER THAT,
THAT'S WHAT IT WAS?
HUH!?
IT WAS MY BIRTHDAY.
WHAT THE HELL!?
ABOUT EVERY-THING.
I GUESS I JUST STOPPED CARING.
20
YOU DO!?
I COMPLETELY UNDERSTAND, TAMAYO.


SIGH...
OH MY!
I HAVE TO LOOK AFTER MY BED-RIDDEN MOTHER-IN-LAW. HE FORCED IT ALL UPON ME!
TRULY, THE LIFE OF A HOUSEWIFE IS PAINFUL.
YOU GET NO THANKS OR PRAISE FROM ANYONE.
IN MY CASE...

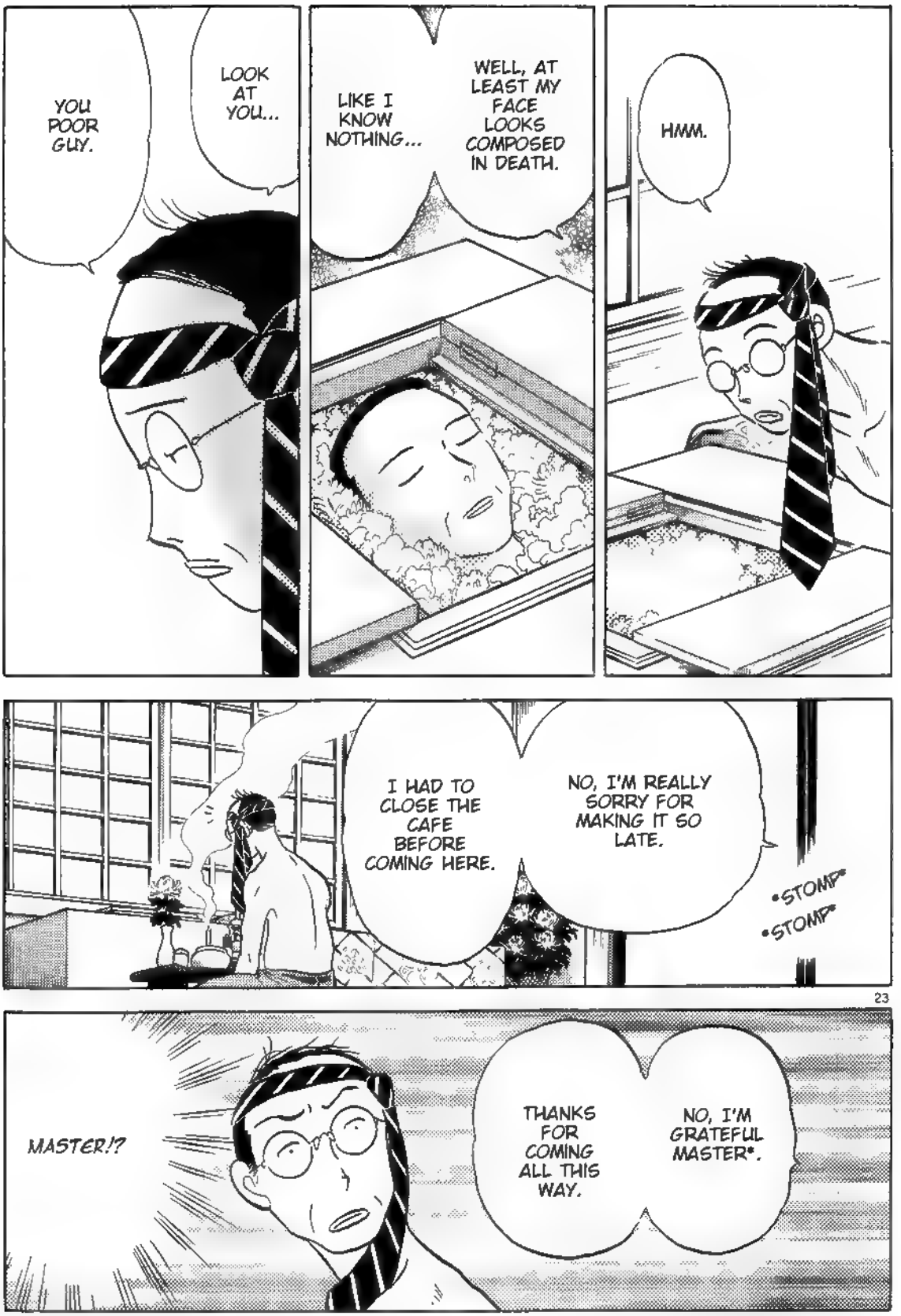
JUST WHAT DID YOU SAY BACK THEN?
BUT NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT...


THE COMPANY WAS FEELING THE FULL EFFECTS OF THE BUBBLE BURSTING.
I'LL LEAVE MASAHIRO IN YOUR HANDS.
I CAN'T COME HOME NOW.
THAT WAS A PRETTY TOUGH TIME.

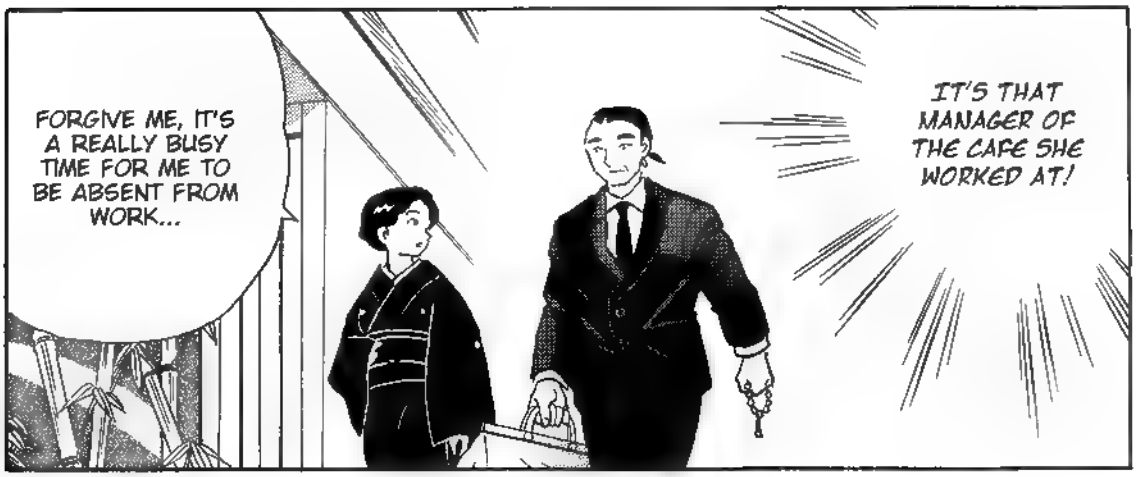
21

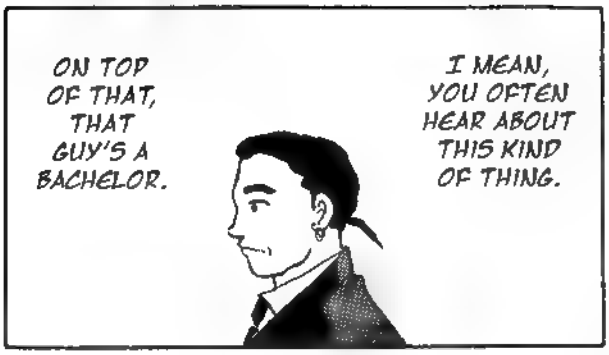
AND THEN...
ALL FOR YOU AND MASAHIRO.
I WAS WORKING MYSELF TO THE BONE.

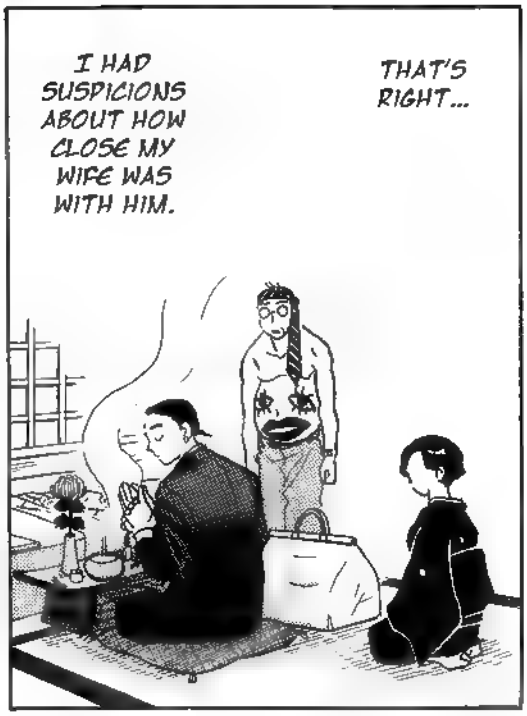
IT SEEMS LIKE YOSHIMOTO-KACHOU MIGHT BE GETTING LAID OFF.
BREAK ROOM
I THOUGHT THE COMPANY HAD BEEN MAKING A RECOVERY, BUT...
ANYONE WITH A GOOD SALARY HAS TO GO SINCE WE'RE DOWNSIZING THE MID-LEVEL WORKERS.
THE COMPANY POLICY IS,
OH.
SIGH.
JUST WHAT HAD I BEEN TRYING SO HARD FOR?
I...
22
UNTIL MY FUNERAL TOMORROW.
I MUST HAVE BEEN LEFT HERE
IT'S ME.


YOU POOR GUY.
LOOK AT YOU...
LIKE I KNOW NOTHING...
WELL, AT LEAST MY FACE LOOKS COMPOSED IN DEATH.
HMM.
I HAD TO CLOSE THE CAFE BEFORE COMING HERE.
NO, I'M REALLY SORRY FOR MAKING IT SO LATE.
STOMP
STOMP
23
MASTER!?
THANKS FOR COMING ALL THIS WAY.
NO, I'M GRATEFUL MASTER*.

*MASTER = PROPRIETOR OR MANAGER OF A BAR/CAFE

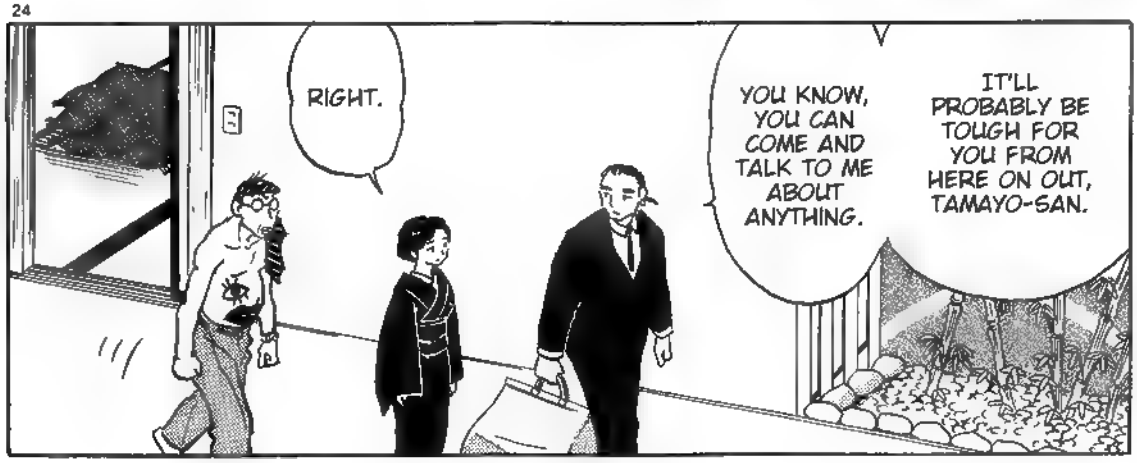

FORGIVE ME, IT'S A REALLY BUSY TIME FOR ME TO BE ABSENT FROM WORK...
IT'S THAT MANAGER OF THE CAFE SHE WORKED AT!


ON TOP OF THAT, THAT GUY'S A BACHELOR.
I MEAN, YOU OFTEN HEAR ABOUT THIS KIND OF THING.


I HAD SUSPICIONS ABOUT HOW CLOSE MY WIFE WAS WITH HIM.
THAT'S RIGHT...

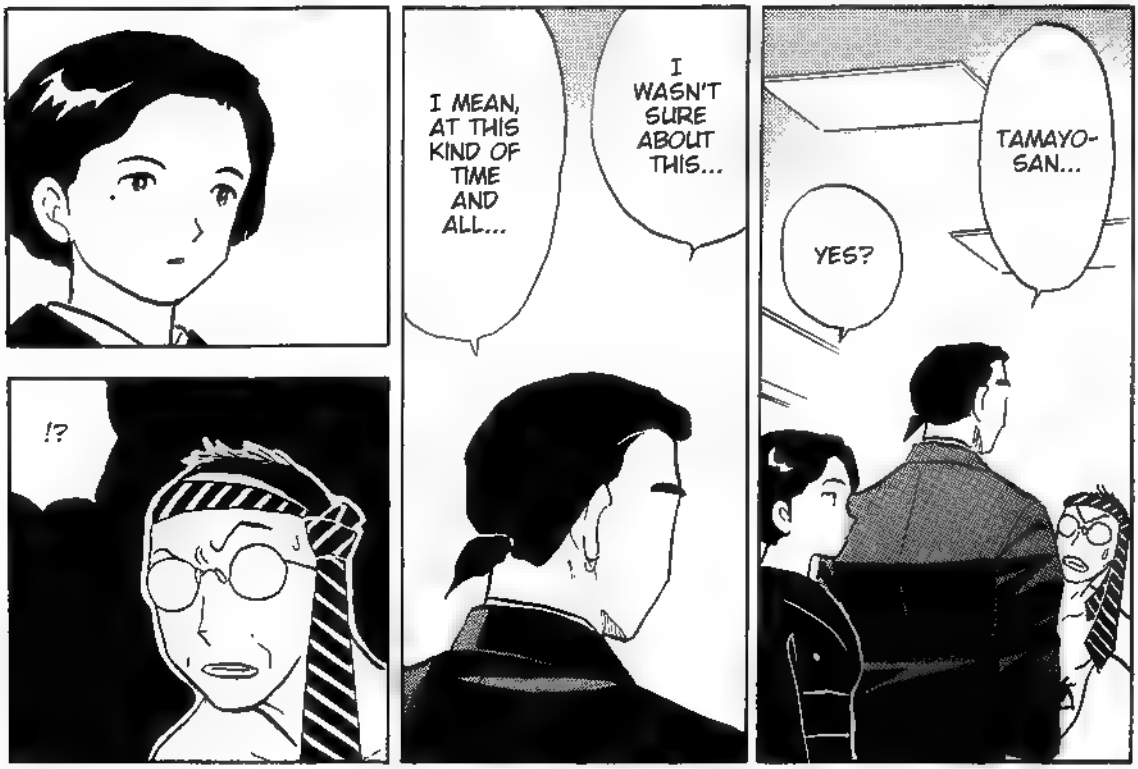
COULD IT BE...
I HAVEN'T EVEN SEEN MY WIFE SHED ONE TEAR YET...

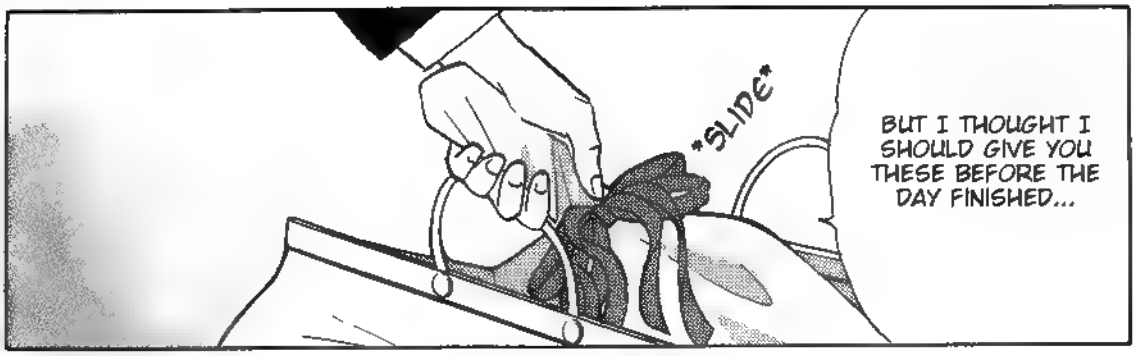
24


RIGHT.
YOU KNOW, YOU CAN COME AND TALK TO ME ABOUT ANYTHING.
IT'LL PROBABLY BE TOUGH FOR YOU FROM HERE ON OUT, TAMAYO-SAN.

THAT YOU WERE FINE?
DIDN'T YOU JUST TELL YOUR SISTER
OI.
SNAP
THANK YOU, MASTER.
...
SHE'S MARRIED, SO YOU CALL HER MRS. YOSHIMOTO!
YOU DON'T GET TO CALL HER TAMAYO-SAN.
AND WHAT'S WITH YOUR OVER-FAMILIARITY?
Saizou Ishimura

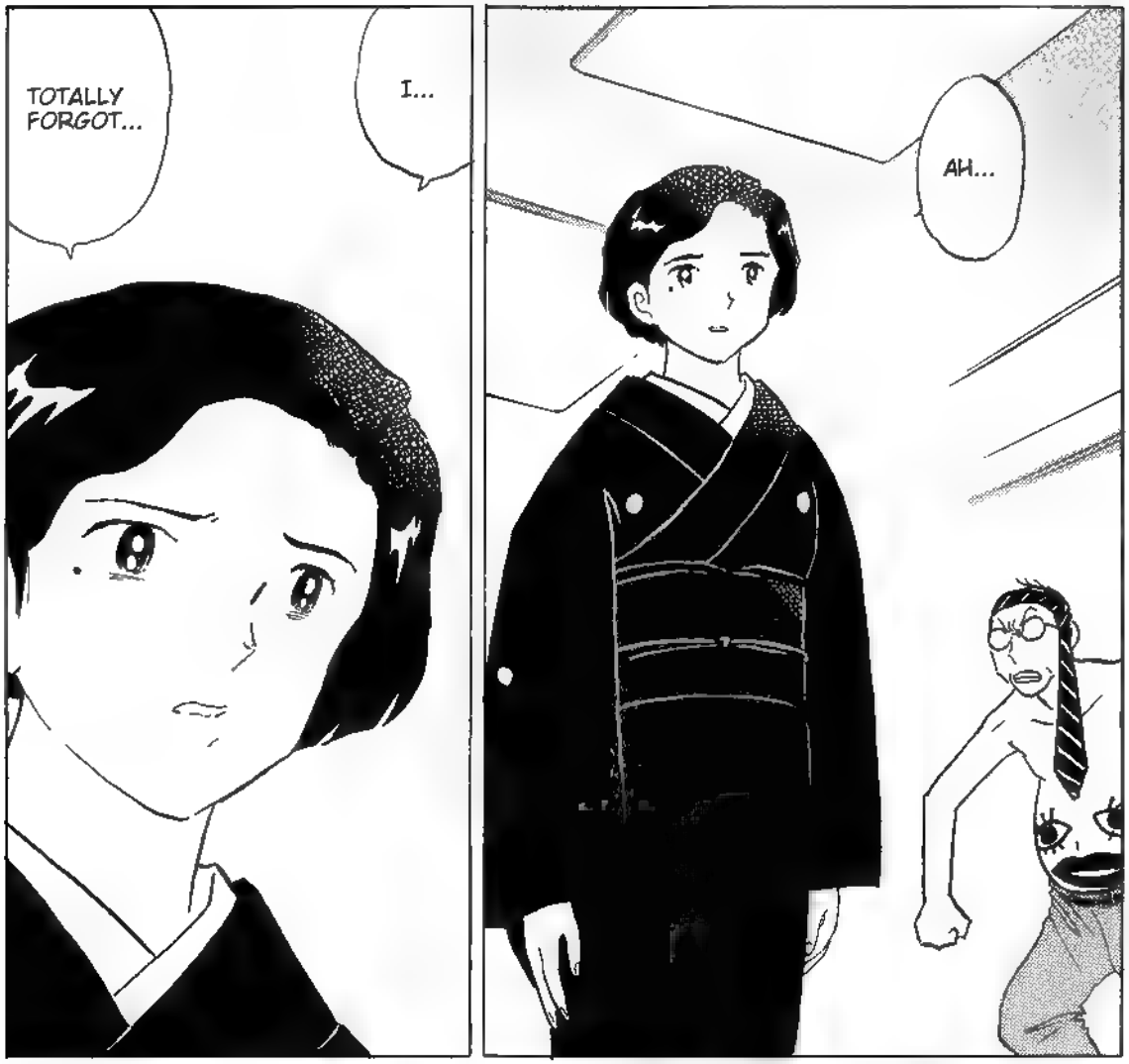
25

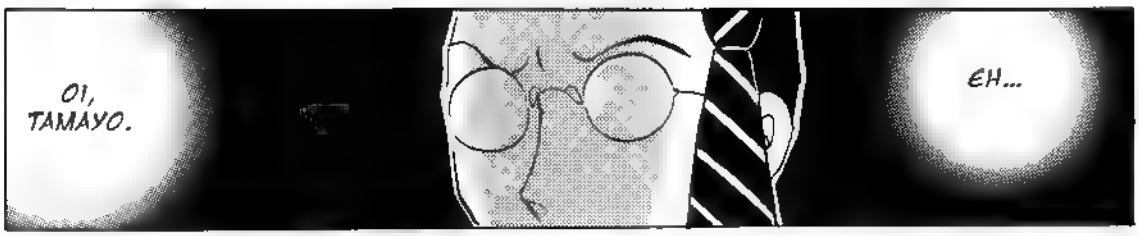

!?
I MEAN, AT THIS KIND OF TIME AND ALL...
I WASN'T SURE ABOUT THIS...
YES?
TAMAYO-SAN...


SLIDE
BUT I THOUGHT I SHOULD GIVE YOU THESE BEFORE THE DAY FINISHED...

26

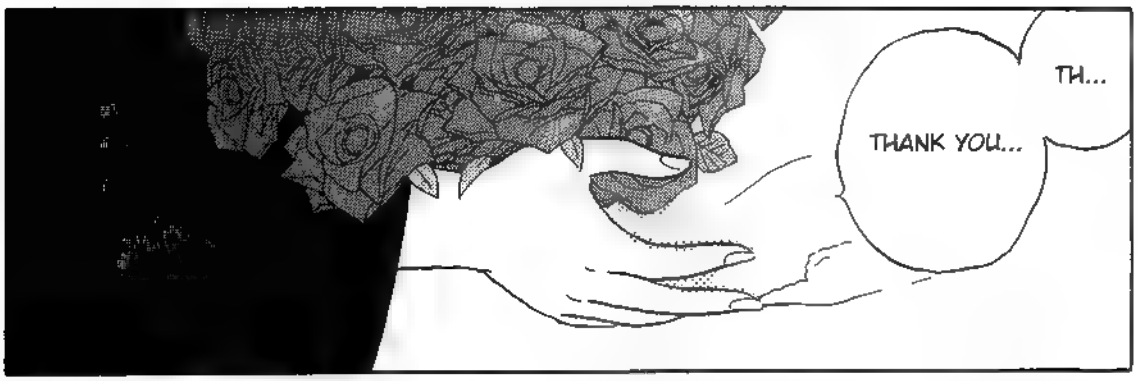
HERE...
AFTER ALL, TODAY'S YOUR BIRTHDAY TAMAYO-SAN.
WH- WHAT'S WITH THIS GUY!
AT THE OVERNIGHT VIGIL FOR HER HUSBAND!!
TREMBLING


TOTALLY FORGOT...
I...
AH...

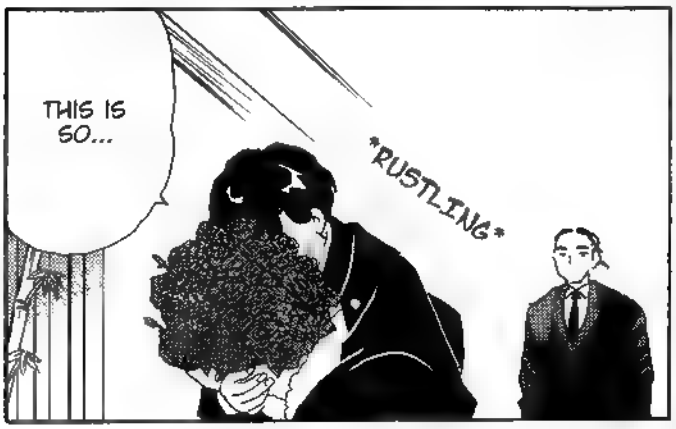

OI, TAMAYO.
EH...

27

YOU'RE THINKING OF ACCEPTING THEM...?
D- DON'T TELL ME...


TH...
THANK YOU...

THIS IS...
WH-WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?


THIS IS SO...
RUSTLING

28

TAMAYO...

WHAAAAAT!?
OVERWHELMED

I SUPPOSE THAT TO YOU...
THAT'S RIGHT.
TAMAYO... YOU LOOK HAPPY.
I'VE ALREADY BEEN GONE FOR A LONG TIME.
OH DARLING...
29
YOU REMEM-BERED...?

THIS IS...
MY HAND-WRITING.
Dear Tamayo: Happy birthday.
EH...?
HUH...?
ME...?
OH, YOU GAVE FLOWERS TO TAMAYO?
I JUST HAPPENED TO PASS TAMAYO-SAN'S HOUSE,
WHERE I SAW AN UNCERTAIN-LOOKING FLORIST...
AH, THAT'S RIGHT.
ON THE DAY BEFORE I DIED,
I WAS WORRIED ABOUT STUFF LIKE LOSING MY JOB,
BUT I HADN'T TOLD HER ABOUT THAT YET.
I WASN'T SURE HOW WE WERE GOING TO GET BY.
BUT TAMAYO...

AND SO I GIVE YOU THESE FLOWERS.

I REALIZED I STILL WANTED TO BE WITH YOU.

YOU AND NO-ONE ELSE.

I KNOW AT TIMES I'VE MADE YOU SAD OR HAVEN'T TREATED YOU VERY WELL.

AND MAYBE YOU DON'T EVEN LOVE ME ANYMORE.

31

BUT I STILL WANT US TO BE TOGETHER.

I...
I THOUGHT YOU'D FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT ME.
DARLING...
THANK YOU.
DRIP
32

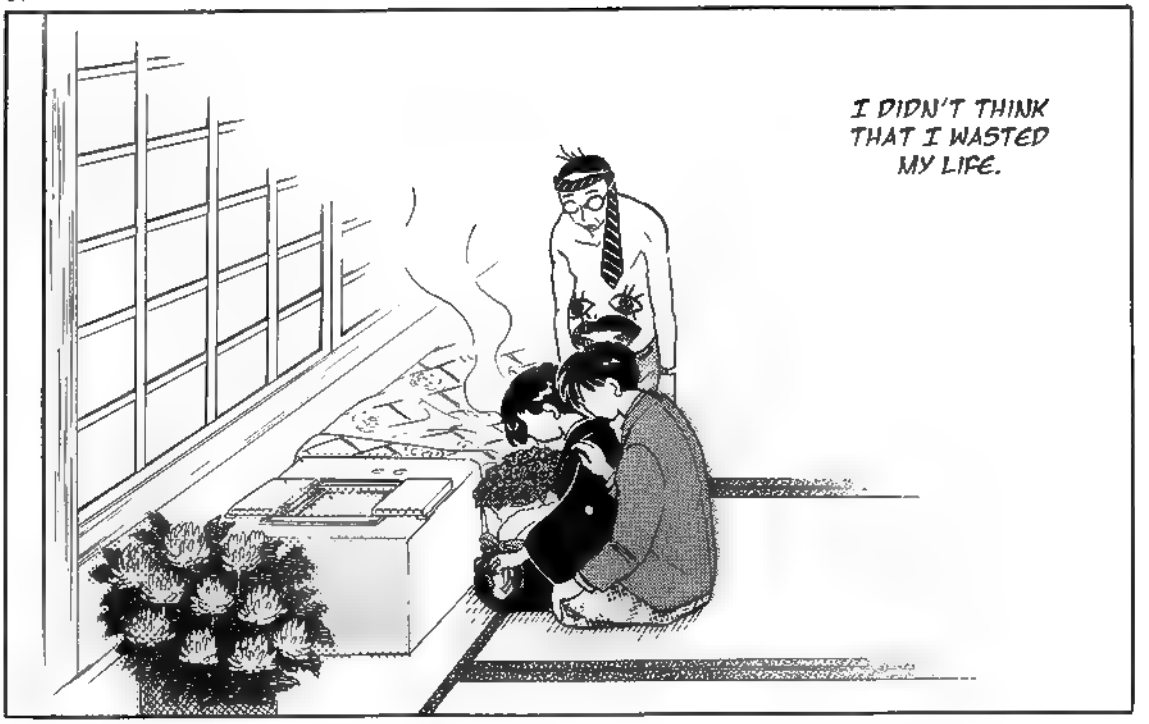
I TRULY AM SORRY.
I'M SORRY, TAMAYO.
MY TIME IS UP.
I'M AFRAID
LOOK AFTER YOUR MOTHER FOR ME...
LISTEN...
MASA-HIRO...

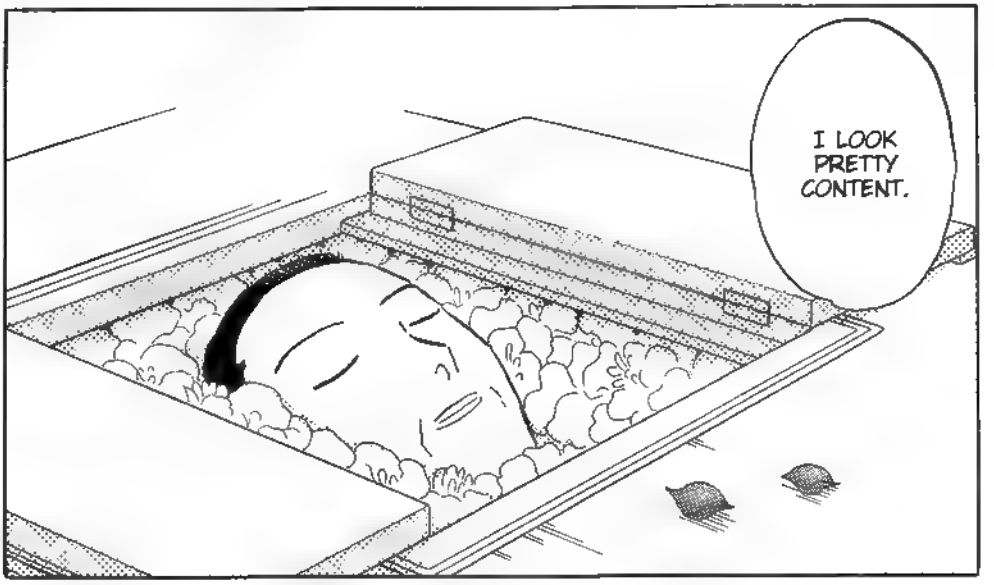
BUT EVEN SO...

I WISH I COULD HAVE NOTICED ALL THESE THINGS A LITTLE SOONER.

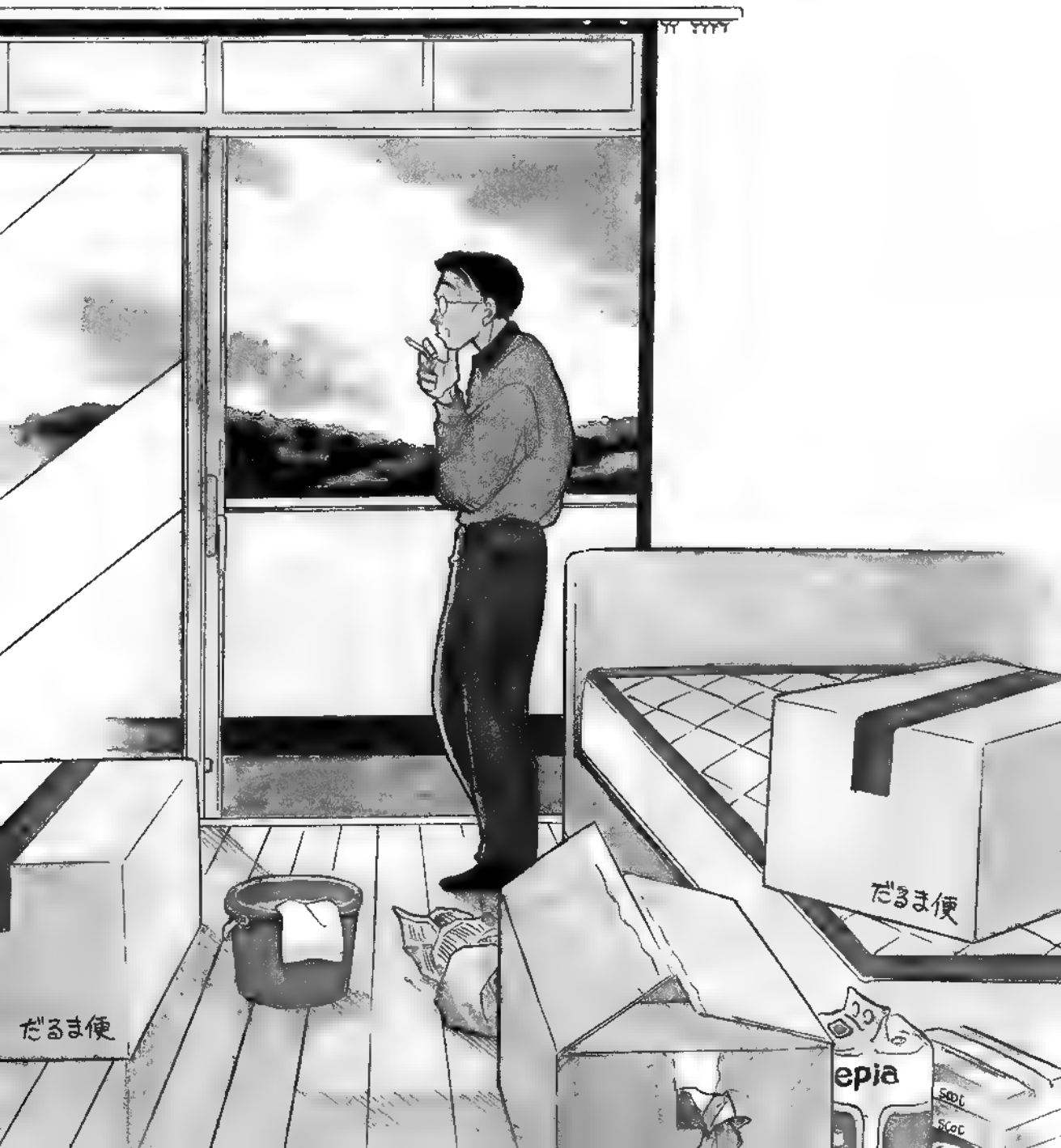
I WISH...

34





Permanent Love

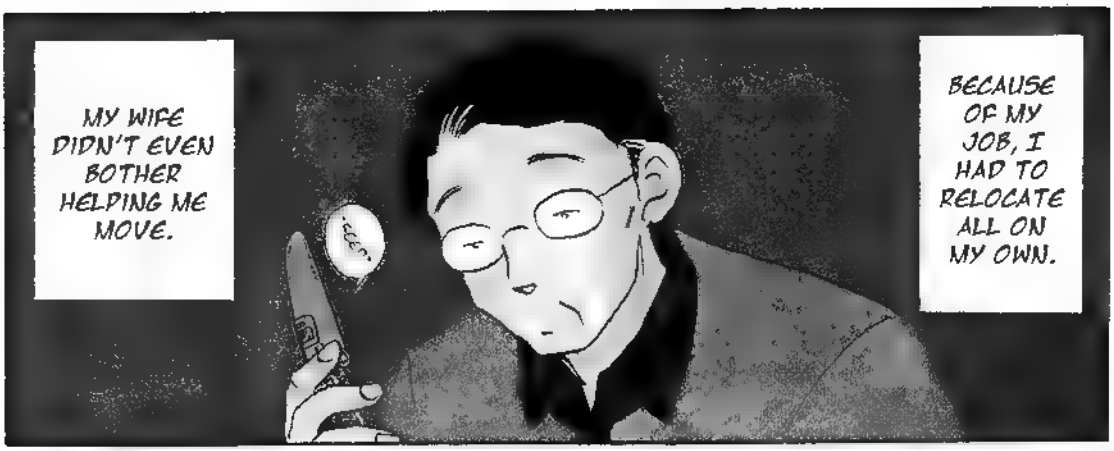


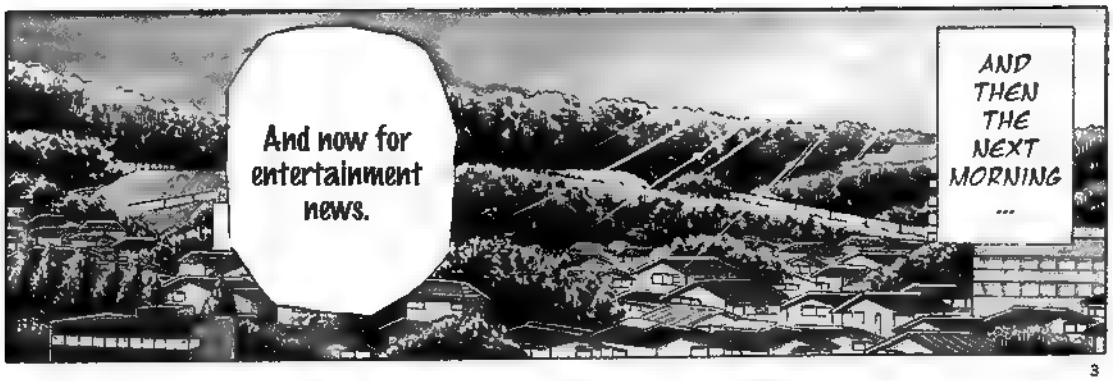
YEAH, MOSTLY.
SO DARLING, DID YOU FINISH UNPACKING?

2

LOADS OF THINGS.
YOU KNOW, WITH THE NEIGHBOR-HOOD ASSOCIATION, THE PTA AND SO ON.
NO, REALLY IT'S FINE.

I KNOW.
IT'S JUST THAT, I'M KINDA BUSY TOO...
I FEEL SO BAD, NOT HELPING YOU MOVE.


MY WIFE DIDN'T EVEN BOTHER HELPING ME MOVE.
BECAUSE OF MY JOB, I HAD TO RELOCATE ALL ON MY OWN.

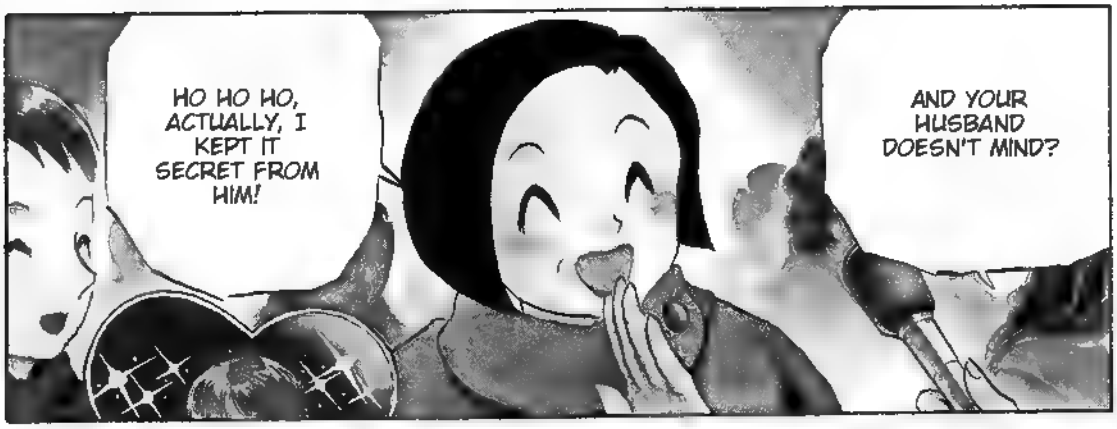

And now for entertainment news.
AND THEN THE NEXT MORNING ...

3

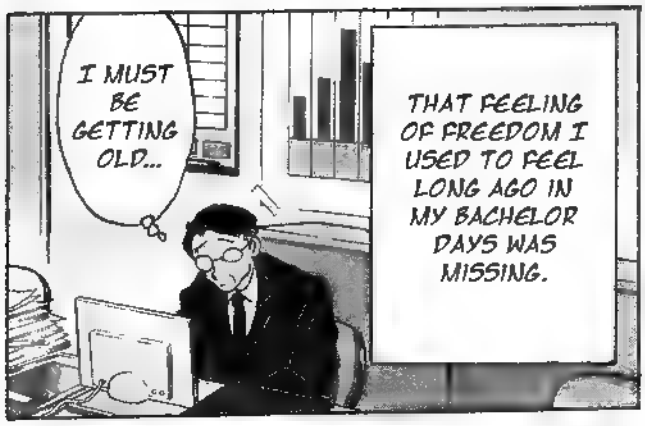
Everyone is trying to get a glimpse of that popular Korean star.
There are so many people here.

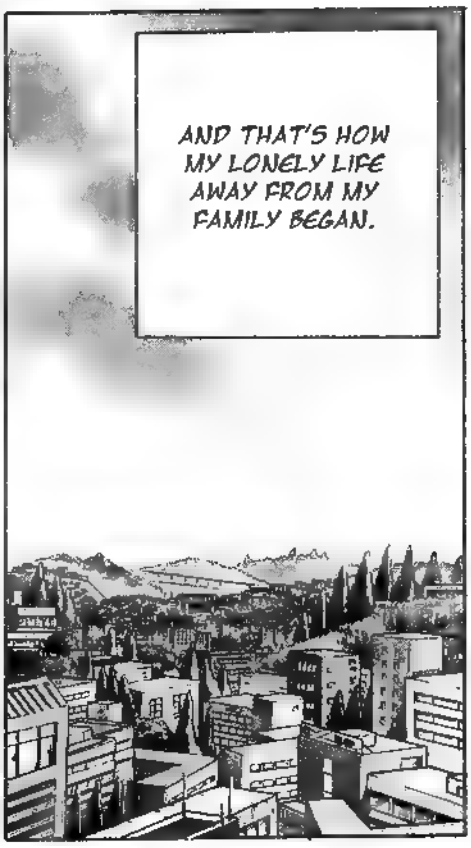
HO HO HO HO, I ACTUALLY STAYED OVERNIGHT AT A NARITA HOTEL...
AND THIS LADY IS FIRST IN LINE...

Yes, right now I'm waiting at Narita airport.
THE CHANNELS HERE AREN'T THE SAME AS THE ONES IN TOKYO.
OH, THAT'S RIGHT.


HO HO HO, ACTUALLY, I KEPT IT SECRET FROM HIM!
AND YOUR HUSBAND DOESN'T MIND?

Kyaaaaaah!
Oh, he's made his appearance!
...
THAT'S MY WIFE.


I MUST BE GETTING OLD...
THAT FEELING OF FREEDOM I USED TO FEEL LONG AGO IN MY BACHELOR DAYS WAS MISSING.


AND THAT'S HOW MY LONELY LIFE AWAY FROM MY FAMILY BEGAN.

4

There's a huge line for the Korean star's photo exhibit...

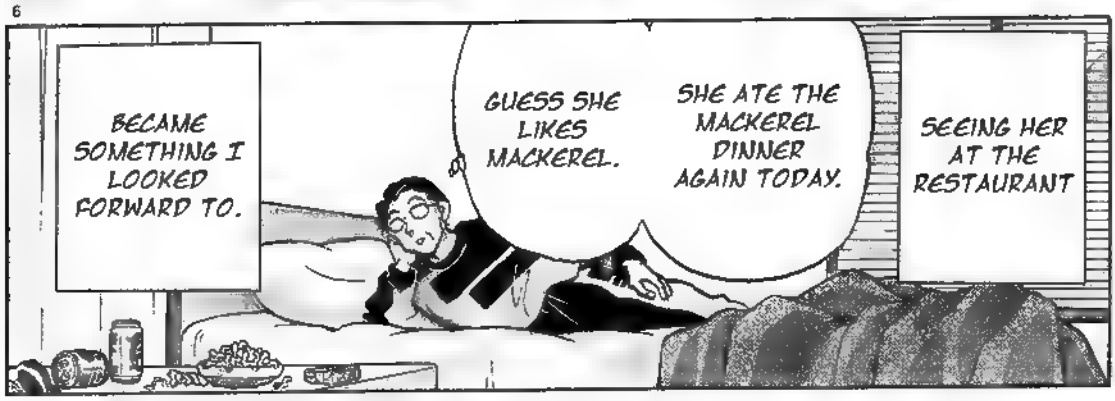
HO HO HO, I STILL HAVEN'T TOLD HIM!
SO WHAT DID YOUR HUSBAND HAVE TO SAY ABOUT THIS?
...And the housewife at the very front has been waiting in line since last night...
...
SURE, NO PROBLEM. I GUESS YOU HATE THAT KINDA STUFF?
"BEEP"
WELL ...
HEY, WOULD IT BE ALRIGHT TO CHANGE THE CHANNEL?
THAT IDIOT...
Her again
5
SHE WAS ONE BEAUTIFUL LADY.
I'M JUST NOT REALLY A FAN OF HIS FACE.
HMM~
NOT REALLY A FAN, HUH...?

AH, WELCOME!
SHE'S HERE AGAIN.
SHE WAS A REGULAR AT THAT RESTAURANT.

WHAT KIND OF WOMAN EATS SUPPER ALONE SO LATE AT A RESTAURANT...?
I WONDER WHAT KIND OF WOMAN SHE IS.

WITHOUT REALIZING IT,
HUH? SHE'S NOT HERE TONIGHT.
SEEMS LIKE SHE LIVES ALONE.
SHE'S IN HER THIRTIES, I GUESS...?
STARE

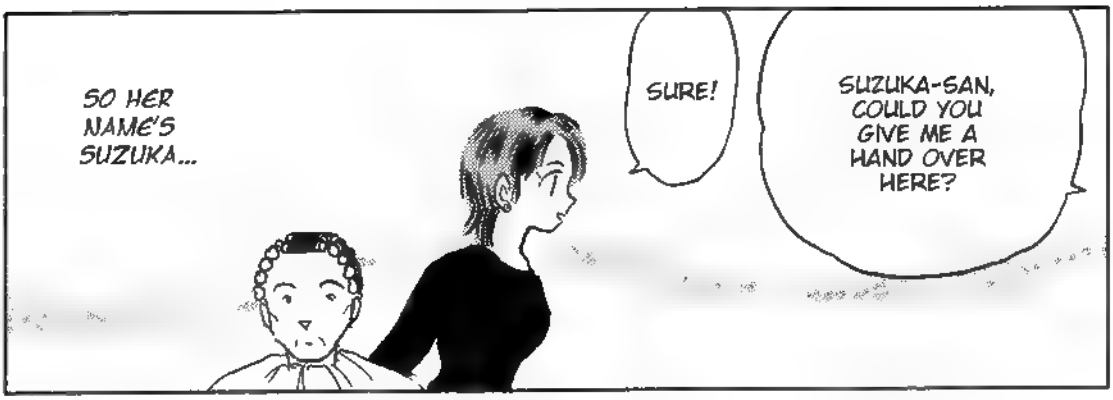
6


BECAME SOMETHING I LOOKED FORWARD TO.
GUESS SHE LIKES MACKEREL.
SHE ATE THE MACKEREL DINNER AGAIN TODAY.
SEEING HER AT THE RESTAURANT

I WONDER WHY.
SIGH.
SHE DIDN'T TURN UP.
WELCOME BACK.
BUT THEN ONE DAY...
HUH? SHE HASN'T COME AGAIN.
!
Hair Salon
THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATRONAGE.
HMM.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
7
AH... IT'S HER!
BA-DUMP

SO SHE'S A BEAUTICIAN... HUH.
Hair Salon
SMILE
AT ME!?
SHE SMILED!
8
Hair Salon
WELCOME!
P- PLEASE GIVE ME A PERM.
"BELL RINGING"
YEAH.
I MUST HAVE IMAGINED IT.
WAIT... WHY WOULD SHE DO THAT?
Hair Salon

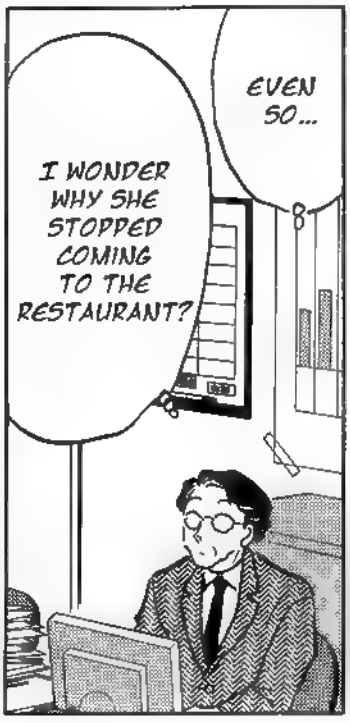
EXCUSE ME,
MIND IF I ASK YOU SOMETHING?
I'M SUCH AN IDIOT...
THERE.
OK, THAT'S IT FOR THE TRIM.
HAVEN'T I SEEN YOU AT THAT SET MEAL RESTAURANT BEFORE?
SHE REMEMBERED ME--!?
HUH... SO YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN.
EVER SINCE MY HUSBAND PASSED AWAY...
AH, ERM... DON'T YOU ALSO GO THERE OFTEN?
YEAH, SINCE I LIVE ALONE IT'S A BOTHER TO COOK.
OH, I'M SORRY TO HEAR THAT.
OH NO, I MEAN IT HAPPENED OVER 10 YEARS AGO.
SHE WAS A SURPRISINGLY CHATTY PERSON.

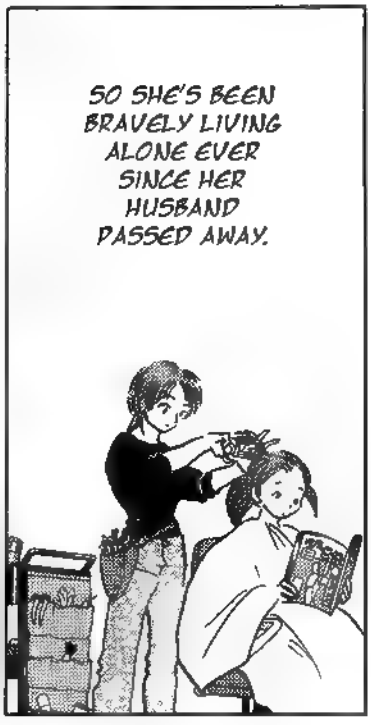

SO HER NAME'S SUZUKA...
SURE!
SUZUKA-SAN, COULD YOU GIVE ME A HAND OVER HERE?

SUCH A LOVELY NAME.
STYLISH
SUZUKA-SAN, SUZUKA-SAN...
THANKS FOR COMING!

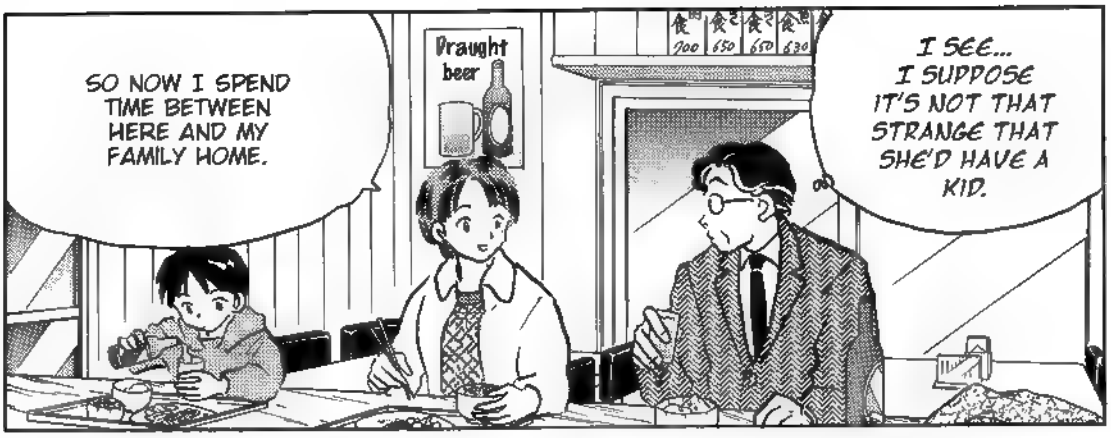
10

THAT MYSTERY WAS SOON SOLVED.
WELCOME BACK!
Draught beer
BEEF 700
PORK GINGER 650
CHICKEN KATSU 650
MACKEREL 630
CHICKEN 550

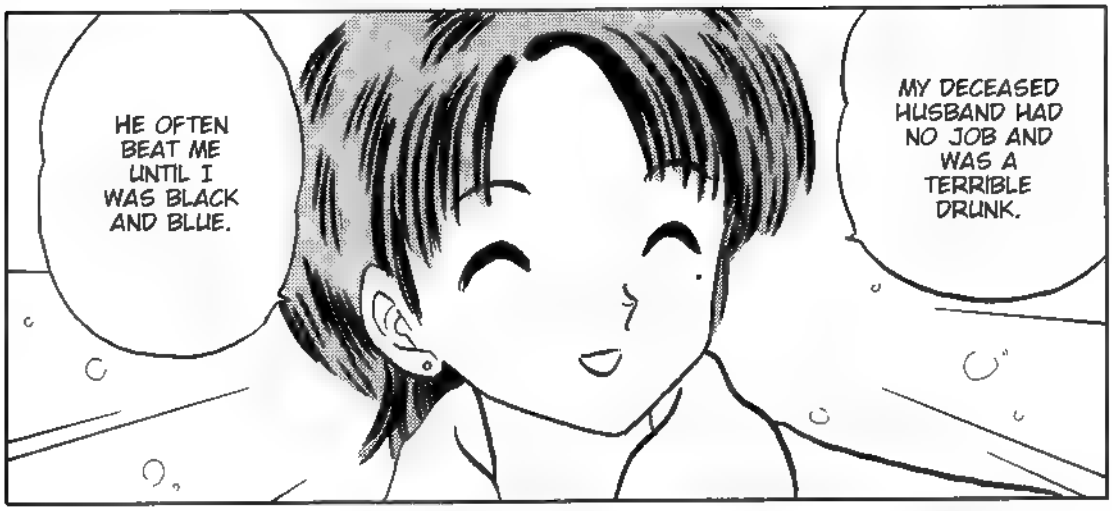

EVEN SO...
I WONDER WHY SHE STOPPED COMING TO THE RESTAURANT?


SO SHE'S BEEN BRAVELY LIVING ALONE EVER SINCE HER HUSBAND PASSED AWAY.

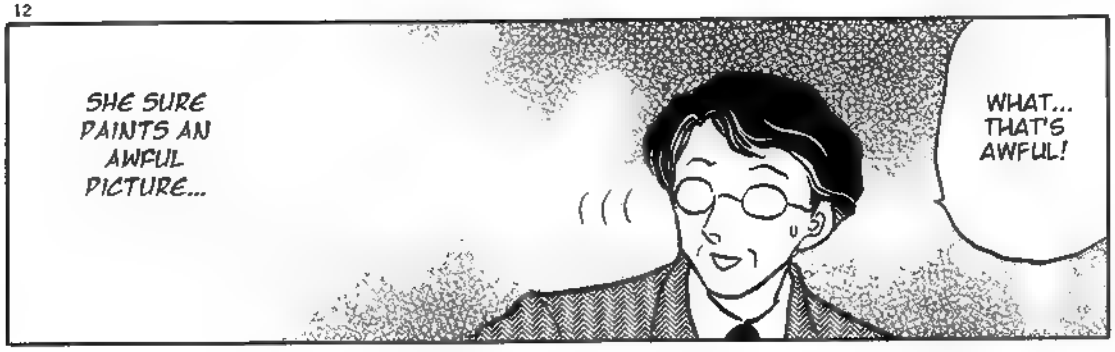
HOW DID YOU KNOW MY NAME...?
"HAPPY"
SUZUKA-SAN!
OH, KAMIMOTO-SAN!
SHE REMEMBERED!
"TOUCHED"
I SAW IF WRITTEN THERE...
YOU APPLIED FOR OUR CUSTOMER'S CARD, DIDN'T YOU?
AH, SORRY.
11
HE'S ALWAYS BEEN STAYING AT MY PARENTS HOUSE.
BUT NOW WE'RE FINALLY LIVING TOGETHER AGAIN.
MOMMA?
I WANT SOME JUICE.
MOMMA.


SO NOW I SPEND TIME BETWEEN HERE AND MY FAMILY HOME.
Draught beer
I SEE... I SUPPOSE IT'S NOT THAT STRANGE THAT SHE'D HAVE A KID.

ACTUALLY THINGS ARE MUCH BETTER NOW.
OH NO,
STILL, IT'S QUITE ADMIRABLE THAT YOU CAN MANAGE ALONE.
HUH...


HE OFTEN BEAT ME UNTIL I WAS BLACK AND BLUE.
MY DECEASED HUSBAND HAD NO JOB AND WAS A TERRIBLE DRUNK.

12


SHE SURE PAINTS AN AWFUL PICTURE...
WHAT... THAT'S AWFUL!

HER JOBLESS, DRUNK AND VIOLENT HUSBAND.
SO HE LOOKS LIKE HIM.
AH.
THAT KOREAN STAR REMINDS ME OF HIM NOW.
I WAS FOOLED BY HIS HANDSOME FACE.
THAT'S WHY SHE DOESN'T LIKE HIM.
YEAH, YOU CAN'T JUDGE A MAN BY HIS APPEARANCE.
IT'S WHAT'S INSIDE THAT'S IMPORTANT.
13
THAT'S ENOUGH MOMMA, YOU SUCK!
I THINK THE RESTAURANT IS STILL OPEN...
A few days later...
かわい商店
I'M NOT SURE WHY, BUT YES!
YES!

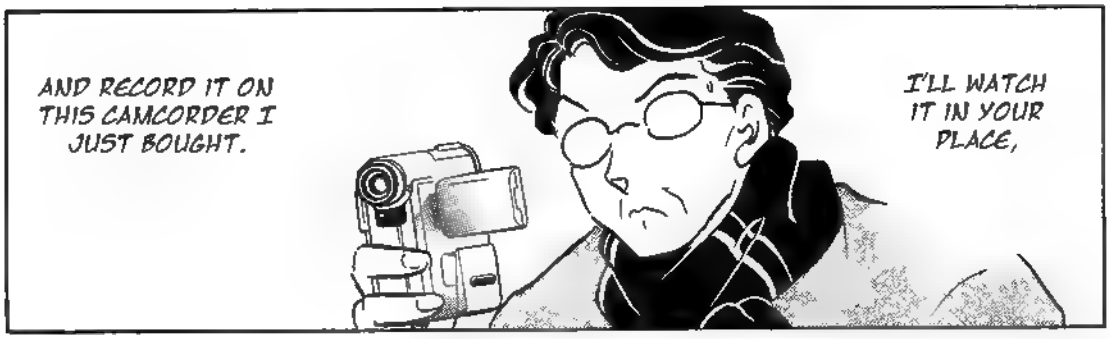
I WAS HAPPIER STAYING WITH GRANDMA!
COME BACK HERE RIGHT NOW, SHOU!
SUZUKA-SAN...
THIS IS BUGGING ME.
I... I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY TO HER...
WHAT'S GOING ON?
木下医院
SNEAK!

14

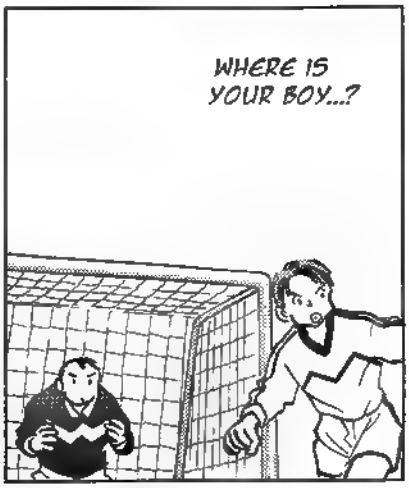
A SHAMPOO FOR NOW.
AND WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TODAY?
THE NEXT DAY WAS A SUNDAY.
WELCOME!
Hair Salon
M
ALL RIGHT!
CLAP

SHE'LL PROBABLY END UP HATING ME.
"WHOOSH"
BUT IT'S REALLY NONE OF MY BUSINESS.
I WANT TO ASK HER WHAT HAPPENED.
"SNIFFLE"
STILL, WHAT SHOULD I DO?
I HAD A HUGE ARGUMENT WITH MY SON LAST NIGHT.
OH BOY, NOW I'VE REALLY GONE AND MESSED UP.
ISN'T IT ENOUGH TO JUST SEE HER FACE?
I SHOULDN'T ASK HER WHAT HAPPENED.
15
AND COME TO HIS SOCCER MATCH.
HE WANTED ME TO TAKE THE DAY OFF WORK,
HE WAS JUST BEING SPOILED.
S-SO WHAT HAPPENED?
"WHOOSH"

I WANT TO GIVE HER A CHANCE TO SEE IT!
I GUESS SHE REALLY DOES WANT TO GO, DOESN'T SHE?
SHE LOOKS SAD.
IT'S NOT POSSIBLE, NOT THIS AFTERNOON.
...YOU CAN'T GO?
4
9
SUZUKA-SAN, THIS WILL BE YOUR SON'S HOUR OF TRIUMPH!

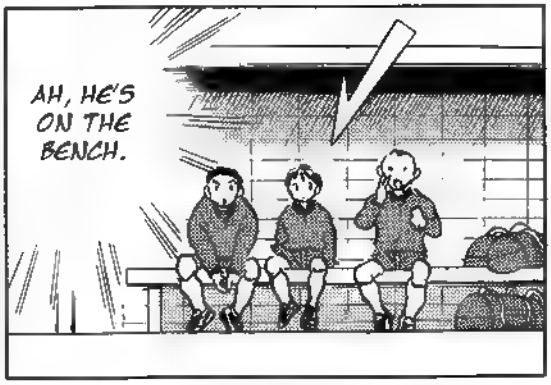

AND RECORD IT ON THIS CAMCORDER I JUST BOUGHT.
I'LL WATCH IT IN YOUR PLACE,

...


WHERE IS YOUR BOY...?

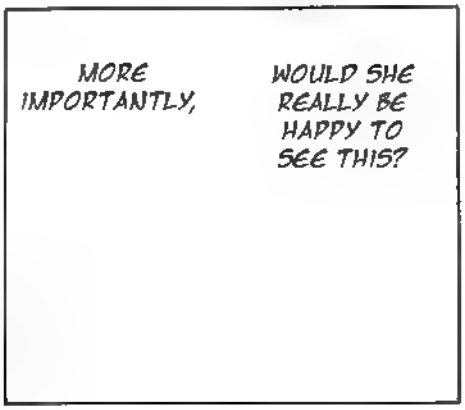
BUT...

THIS IS KINDA AWKWARD...


AH, HE'S ON THE BENCH.

17

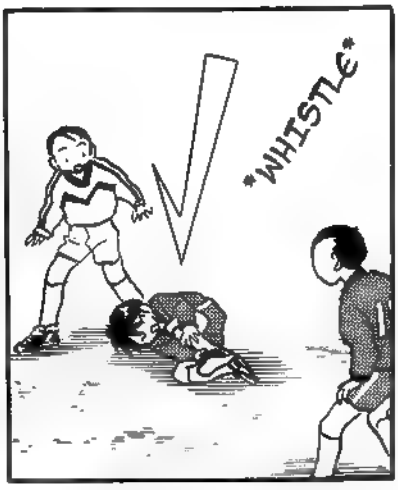
SHE'LL THINK I'M THE WORST...
I'M JUST SOME STRANGER, AND SHE NEVER ASKED ME TO DO THIS...


MORE IMPORTANTLY,
WOULD SHE REALLY BE HAPPY TO SEE THIS?

OR WILL SHE THINK I'M SOME KIND OF PERVERT!?
OH, HE'S BEING SENT ON!
16
WHISTLE
SNEAKING
THIS WAS A BAD IDEA! I'D BETTER GO HOME...
18
EHH!? IT'S SUZUKA-SAN!!
SHOU~!!
PLAY YOUR HEART OUT, SHOU!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE!?
OH, KAMIMOTO-SAN!

SHOU...

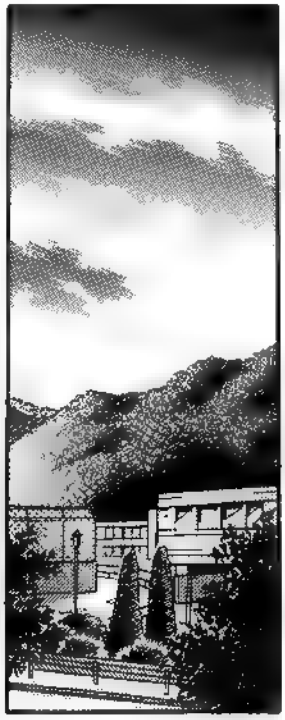

WHISTLE

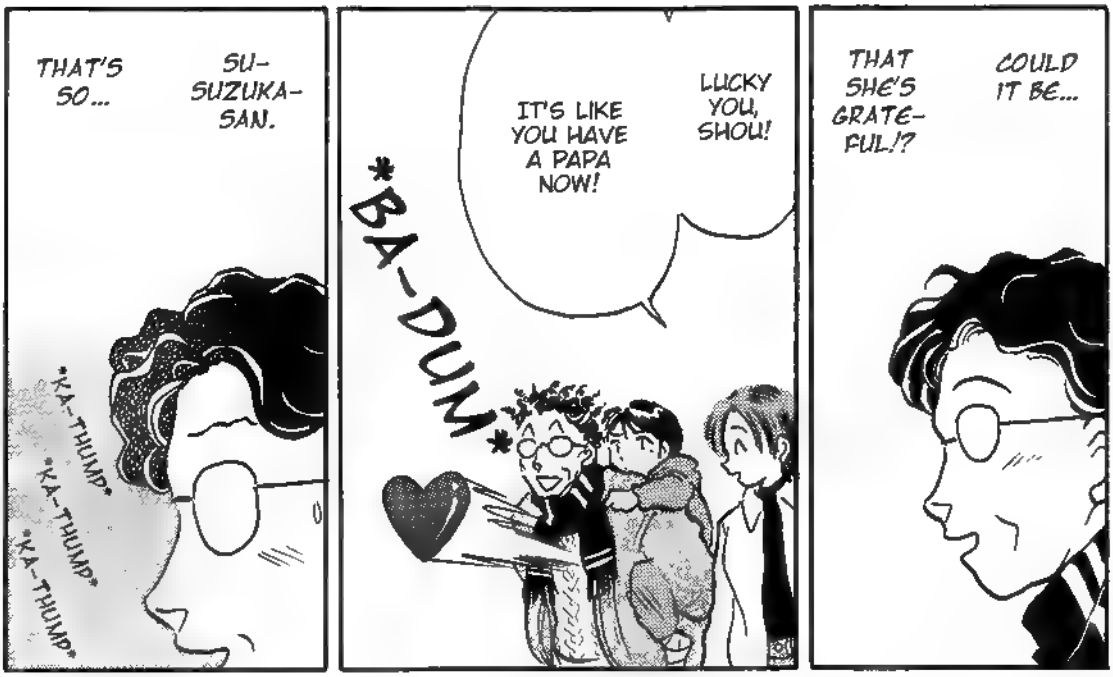
YOU SAID YOU COULDN'T COME...
RIGHT BACK AT YOU...

19

AH NO, I JUST HAPPENED TO BE PASSING BY.
BUT SERIOUSLY, THANKS A BUNCH FOR BEING HERE FOR ME!

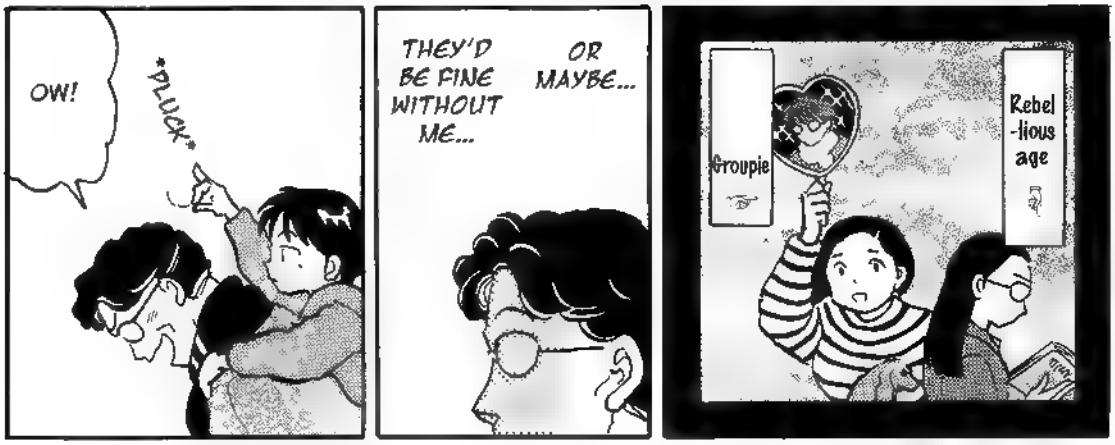
IN THE END THE MANAGER LET ME COME.
AH.




THAT'S SO...
SU-SUZUKA-SAN.
KA-THUMP
KA-THUMP
KA-THUMP
BA-DUM
IT'S LIKE YOU HAVE A PAPA NOW!
LUCKY YOU, SHOU!
THAT SHE'S GRATE-FUL!?
COULD IT BE...

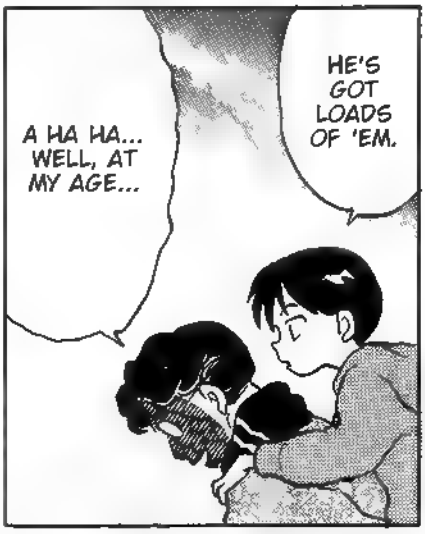
Broken-winged angel
IF ONLY I DIDN'T HAVE A FAMILY ALREADY...

20


OW!
PLUCK
THEY'D BE FINE WITHOUT ME...
OR MAYBE...
Groupie
Rebel-lious age

SHARP PAIN
IT'S A GREY HAIR.
SHOU! YOU KNOW YOU SHOULDN'T DO THAT!

IF YOU LIKE, I COULD DYE THEM FOR YOU?
THEY MUST BE PREMATURE GREY HAIRS!


A HA HA... WELL, AT MY AGE...
HE'S GOT LOADS OF 'EM.

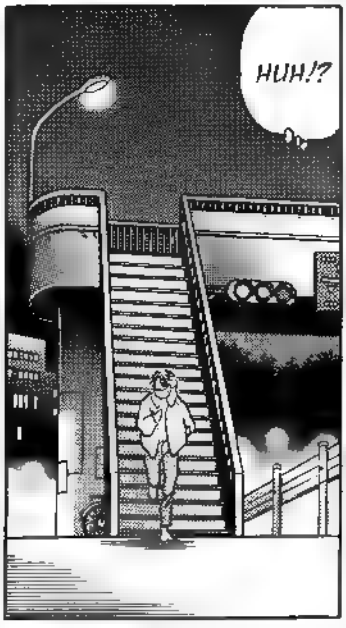
21

I HAD THEM DYED.
STYLISH
THANKS FOR COMING!
IT SUITS ME.
HMM.

From my wife.
AN EMAIL?
HUH?
BUZZ
BUZZ
JEJU ISLAND IN SOUTH KOREA!?
JEJU ISLAND!?
I'm on Jeju Island now! (^0^)
I finally made it!
I went shopping at the memorial hall.
BUT I DON'T FEEL ANGRY THOUGH.
HMPH, THAT IDIOT...
Of course, I kept it a secret from my husband (^ ^;)
SHE SENT IT TO THE WRONG PERSON.
SHE...
IF I STAYED HERE FOREVER.
IT WOULDN'T BE SO BAD...

ONE NIGHT SOMETHING HAPPENED THAT CHANGED MY LIFE.
BUT THEN SUDDENLY...

SUZUKA-SAN!?


HUH!?

I SUPPOSE I'LL JUST GET SOMETHING FROM THE CONVENIENCE STORE.
IT'S GETTING LATE...

23

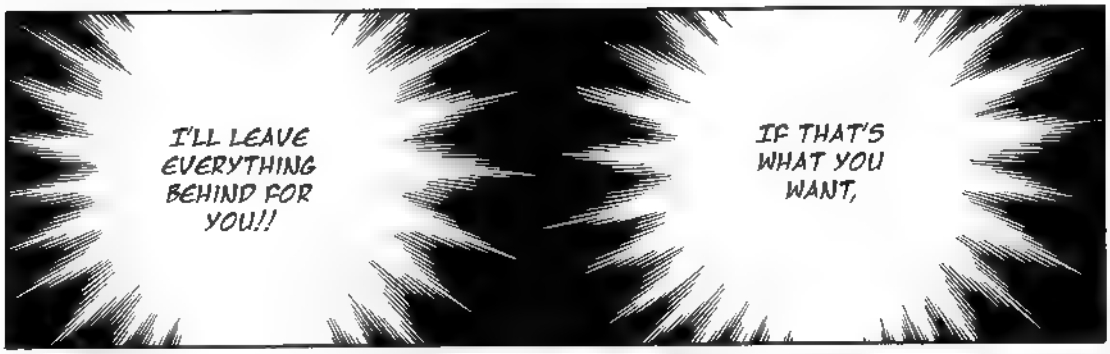
STUMBLE

SHOU IS MISSING.
WHEEZING
MY SON...

KA-KAMIMOTO-SAN.
PANT
PANT
SUZUKA-SAN, WHAT'S WRONG?

BUT NOW I'M RELIEVED TO SEE YOUR FACE...
TI'M SORRY...
YOU'VE GOT A FEVER, HAVEN'T YOU?
WHEEZING
SU, SUZUKA-SAN!
HNNNG
SUZUKA-SAN.
24
Rx
Drug Store
IS ANYONE THERE!?
BANG
BANG
WHEEZING
WHY DON'T YOU REST THERE FOR NOW...
MY APARTMENT'S NEARBY.
SORRY TO IMPOSE...

I... I'M GONNA TAKE CARE OF YOU!!
PANTING
JUST YOU WAIT, SUZUKA-SAN!


I'LL LEAVE EVERYTHING BEHIND FOR YOU!!
IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT,

I'VE JUST ARRIVED IN FRONT OF YOUR APARTMENT.

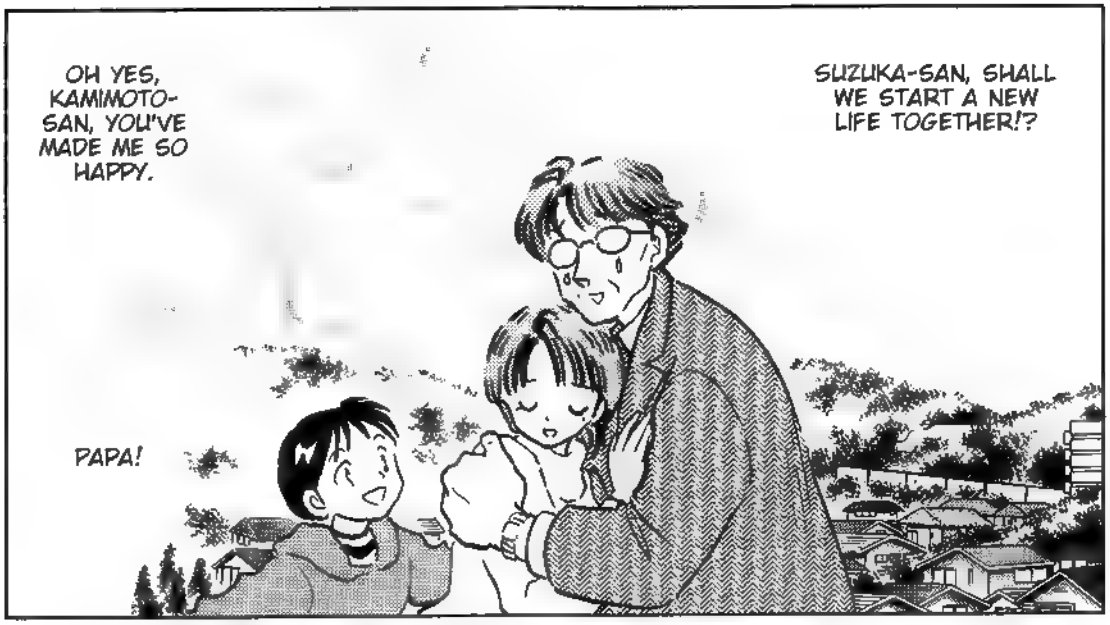
It was my wife.
DARLING, IT'S ME.

HUH!?
RING
RING
RING

25

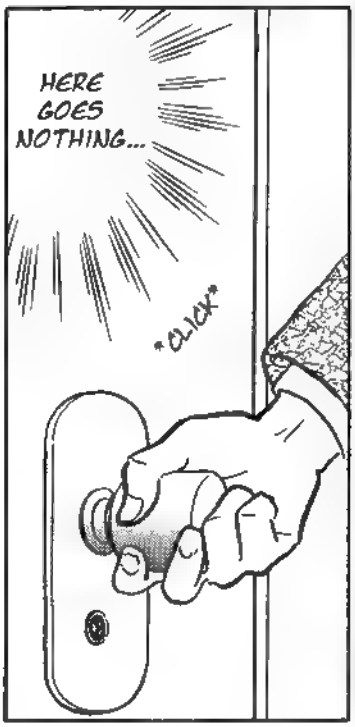
HELLO?
WHO'S CALLING ME NOW?

SLAM
IF THAT'S THE CASE THEN I'LL JUST LET MYSELF IN AND WAIT FOR YOU.
WHAT'S WRONG? ARE YOU OUT NOW?
YOU- YOU'VE JUST WHAT!?
SUZUKA-SAN IS STILL IN MY ROOM...
THIS IS AWFUL!!
CLANGS UP
NO, WAI-!
DARLING!
JUST WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS!?
26
SO YOU'RE JUST GOING TO LEAVE US!?
HOW CRUEL!
OH BE QUIET. THINGS ARE EXACTLY HOW THEY SEEM.


OH YES, KAMIMOTO-SAN, YOU'VE MADE ME SO HAPPY.
SUZUKA-SAN, SHALL WE START A NEW LIFE TOGETHER!?
PAPA!

A LITTLE NUDGE FROM DESTINY?
"RUNNING"
ACTUALLY, COULD THIS REALLY BE...

27


HERE GOES NOTHING...
"CLICK"

"BA-DUM"
"BA-DUM"

WELCOME BACK, DARLING!
OH OH OH
U FU FU
A HA HA

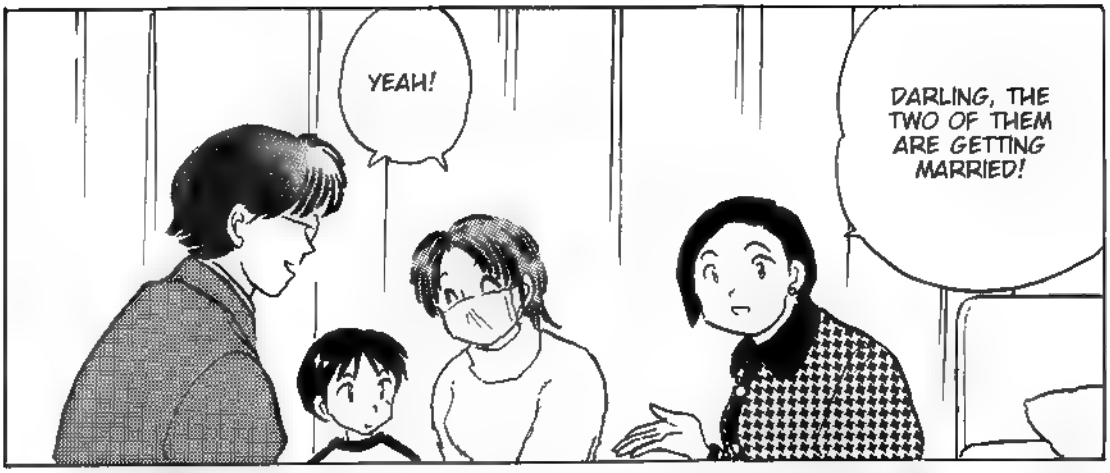
WHY'S EVERYONE LAUGHING?
HUH!?

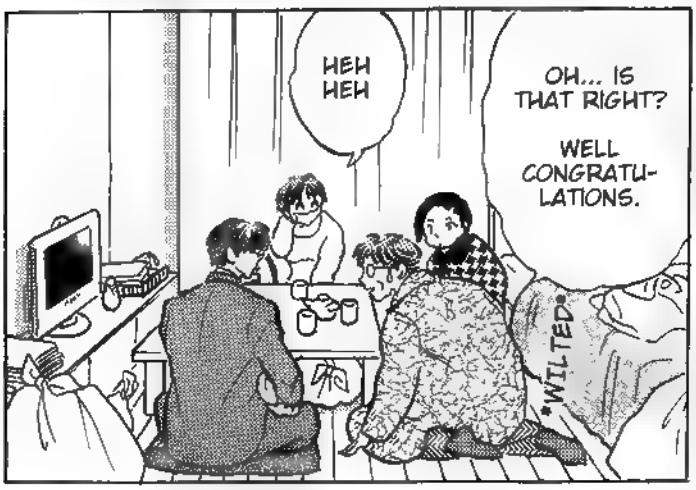
28

HE CAME AS SOON AS I SAID WHICH APARTMENT BLOCK THIS WAS IN.
SORRY, I WAS FEELING MISERABLE BY MYSELF SO I CALLED MY BOYFRIEND.

AH, IT SEEMS SUZUKA CAUSED QUITE A BIT OF TROUBLE FOR YOU.
AND WHO'S THIS GUY!?

DID SHE SAY BOYFRIEND?
HUH!? DID I HEAR THAT RIGHT!?
WELL, SINCE YOUR COLD IS PRETTY BAD... I WENT TO FIND YOUR BOYFRIEND.
I WAS SO SURPRISED!
BUT THEN SHOU TURNED UP WITH HIM TOO.
OH, NOT REALLY...
YOU MEAN THAT KOREAN STAR?
SWOONING
YOUR BOYFRIEND REALLY LOOKS LIKE HIM.
I'M JEALOUS THOUGH--!
29
SHE'S NOT EVEN BOTHERING TO HIDE IT ANYMORE.
REALLY?
BUT NO LUCK!
I HEARD A RUMOR THAT HE WAS TRAVELLING INCOGNITO IN THIS AREA, SO I HAD TO COME AND SEE!


YEAH!
DARLING, THE TWO OF THEM ARE GETTING MARRIED!


HEH HEH
OH... IS THAT RIGHT?
WELL CONGRATU-LATIONS.
WILTED

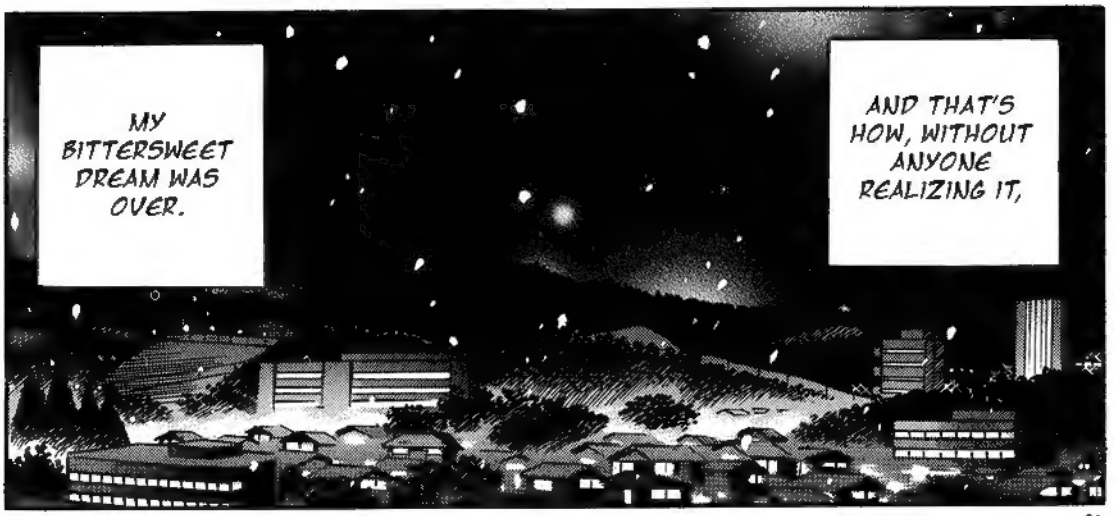
DIDN'T SHE SAY SHE HATED THAT KIND OF FACE?
ACTUALLY, YOU DO LOOK A LITTLE LIKE THAT KOREAN STAR.

30

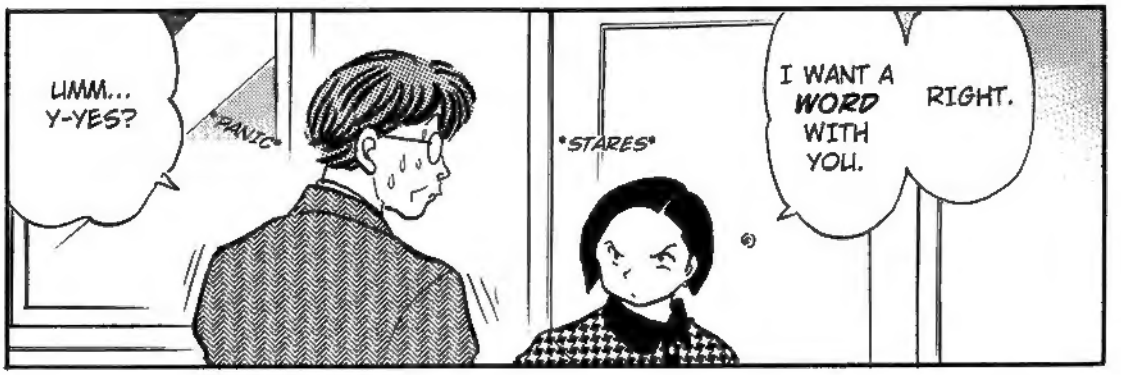
IT ALMOST MADE ME NOT WANT TO GET MARRIED AGAIN.
A HA HA, MY LAST HUSBAND DID CAUSE ME A LOT OF HEARTACHE.

HE WAS APPARENTLY A HARD WORKING TAXI DRIVER.
A HA HA HA
"SMACK"
BUT THIS ONE IS BEAUTIFUL INSIDE TOO!

MY WIFE WAS IN A PRETTY GOOD MOOD AFTER MEETING THAT KOREAN STAR'S DOPPELGANGER.
"COUGH"
SORRY TO HAVE BOTHERED YOU.

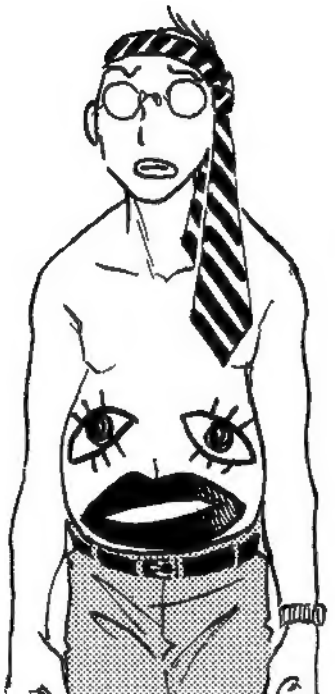

MY BITTERSWEET DREAM WAS OVER.
AND THAT'S HOW, WITHOUT ANYONE REALIZING IT,

31


UMM... Y-YES?
"PANIC"
STARES
I WANT A WORD WITH YOU.
RIGHT.

I STARTED GOING TO A BARBERSHOP A BIT FURTHER AWAY.

AFTER THAT, I NEVER MET SUZUKA-SAN AGAIN.



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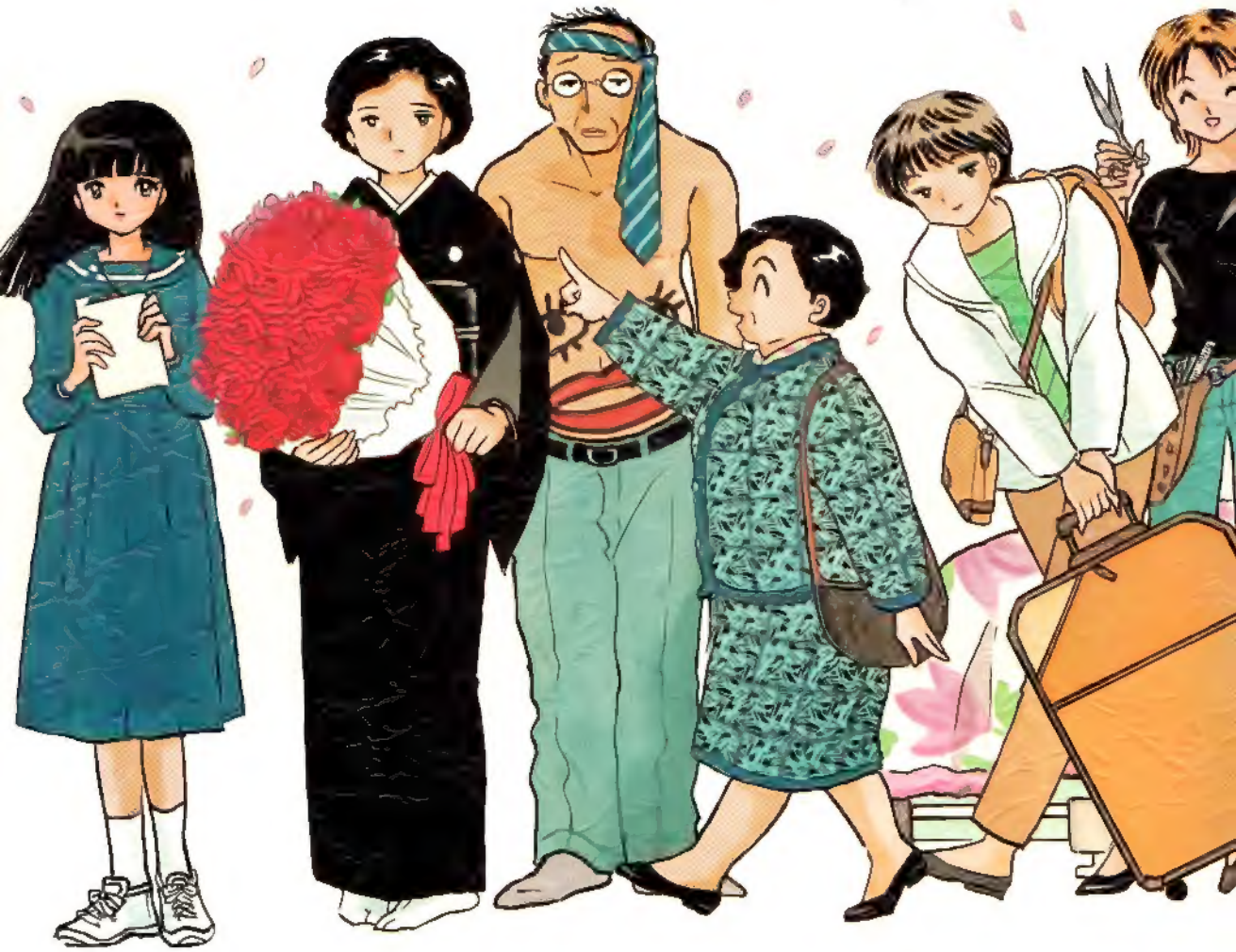

Raws: TRISTANTHORN
Translator: TRISTANTHORN
Proofreader: JUNELIU92 + BASHZESTAMPEEDO
Cleaner: KISS
Typesetter: TAKA2552, DEMON8796, LIM, + BASHZESTAMPEEDO
Q.C.: TRISTANTHORN

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